



Kings Historical Society  
Kings County Museum  
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November 20, 2015

Att: Hon. Tony Ince,  
Minister of Communities, Culture and Heritage

I am writing as the owner of a historic home, a community museum curator, a member of the Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia, and a disappointed citizen. I would like to express deep concern over the introduction of Bill 118 and how it will seriously weaken the protection of heritage buildings in Nova Scotia.

My understanding is that the proposed changes to the Heritage Property Act will result in the following problems:

- 1. Clauses 1, 3 and 8 of Bill 118 will make it much easier to delete a building from the list of protected heritage properties in Nova Scotia. Registration or deregistration should be based on the historic and architectural merits of the properties, NOT on the financial situation of the owners.**
- 2. Clause 9 of the Bill will repeal the permanent protection for municipal heritage properties in heritage conservation districts.**
- 3. Clauses 2 and 7 will make it easier to deregister parts of heritage properties.**

I live and work in Kings County Nova Scotia where we have lost too many historic buildings in recent years, including the Christie House a registered historic property in Wolfville just this past month. So much of what makes Nova Scotia unique and a joy to live in, or visit, are the buildings which reflect our history. Tourists come to Nova Scotia to see our lovely old towns and cities and if we demolish all of the older buildings and replace them with boxes we, as a community, lose a lot of the charm, which sets us apart in the first place. We need stronger legislation not weaker!

Our built heritage represents all aspects of the man-made historic environment from domestic to industrial from monumental to modest it represents a tangible physical link with the past and reflects our current cultural identity. What we preserve, and how we preserve it, will be our legacy to future generations.

Sincerely,

Bria Stokesbury, Curator

cc. Hon Diana C Whalen, Chair, and Members of the Law Amendments

cc. John Lohr, MLA, Kings North