

Dear Honourable Premier Tim Houston & Honourable Minister Brad Johns,

Today, I had an opportunity to present to the Standing Committee on Law Amendments. The focus of my presentation was related to the Office of Children and Youth in Nova Scotia.

I commend the government for taking action on this matter and presenting a solution within the Financial Measures Act.

I'm sending this email to summarize the proposed amendments I shared with the committee today:

1. The Governor-In-Council should be able to appoint multiple commissioners, not just one (for example: ANS Land Titles Initiative, 3 Commissioners).
2. The appointed commissioners should fall within the age range of youth using the Canadian age-defining youth (15-34).
3. Commissioners should not be required to be government employees but, instead, professional contractors so they can continue to pursue their professional careers.
4. The office shouldn't just conduct investigations related to children's services (reactive). The office must pursue opportunities for youth engagement/ empowerment (proactive).

You can watch my 5-minute presentation to the committee here: [video](#).

I am excited to see the progress of this act and the implementation of this work in the near future. I am also happy to answer any questions you might have in relation to what I shared with the committee today.

Thank you,
Alfred Burgesson