

Date: Tuesday, July 21, 2015 at 8:28 AM

To: Karine DeGrace <nbcfp@cfpc.ca>

Subject: RE: Helmet Law in NB for downhill skiers

Dear Karine DeGrâce:

Thank you for your follow-up correspondence regarding the recommendation of the New Brunswick College of Family Physicians that helmet use be mandatory on all ski hills in the province.

I assure you that as Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General, the well-being of New Brunswick residents is my first priority. I agree with you that mandatory helmet use for this activity is a very sound practise. Our government wants all individuals taking part in both skiing and snowboarding to wear helmets. We want the four ski hills in our province to accept that, in order to use the ski hill facilities, they have to wear helmets.

To that end, we have contacted ski hills in the province encouraging them to follow the lead of Poley Mountain, who through hard work and commitment to safety initiated its mandatory helmet policy December 2014. We congratulate Poley Mountain and encouraged the other ski hill operators, who are best positioned to make helmets mandatory, to follow Poley Mountain's lead and to initialize its own mandatory helmet policy.

We want people to be safe in all activities that may cause serious injury and we feel that the ski hills are best suited to make sure people wear their ski helmets. Thank you for following up on this important safety matter and I appreciate the time you have taken to bring this to my attention.

Sincerely,

Hon. Stephen Horsman
Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General