

Real Estate & Infrastructure Management Branch

February 15, 2023

Michelle M. Kelly, KC
Peter W. Kryworuk
The Advocates Society
Suite 1001 – 1660 Hollis Street
Halifax, NS B3J 1V7

Dear Ms. Kelly and Mr. Kryworuk:

Thank you for your letter of January 25, 2023 regarding concerns about accessibility of the Halifax Law Courts located at 1815 Upper Water Street in Halifax to Minister Masland. The Minister has asked me to respond on her behalf.

Ensuring the health and safety of employees and the public while maintaining safe and reliable building infrastructure is a top priority with the Department of Public Works.

Access by Design 2030 provides framework to achieve our goal of an accessible Nova Scotia by 2030 and identifies priorities for this work. The development of standards for the built environment is well underway, increasing awareness, and building capacity in accessibility are important steps to remove barriers for users of our public facing buildings.

More information on this government initiative can be found here:

[Access by Design 2030: Achieving an Accessible Nova Scotia - Government of Nova Scotia, Canada](#)

The primary barrier free access for the Halifax Law Courts building has always been via the HRM owned pedestrian bridge over Lower Water Street to the main entrance of the building. Ramp improvements and additional signage will be installed at the secondary barrier free entrance, allowing clearly delineated pedestrian access through the parkade. During this time vehicle access will not be available and the parkade structure will remain closed.

Thank you for taking the time to write concerning this matter. Please contact Pat Gray, Infrastructure Management Director, at 902-424-2883 if you have any additional questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Pat Gray, P.Eng.
Director, Infrastructure Management