

Hon. Scott Armstrong
Department of Justice
1690 Hollis Street
Halifax, NS, B3J 2L6

November 14 2025

Dear Minister Armstrong,

Congratulations on your recent appointment as the new Minister of Justice. This is an important portfolio, and I hope you treat this work with the respect and care it demands.

I'm writing regarding your government's lack of action on the Environmental Racism Report. Despite sitting on the desks of various ministers for over a year, it's still unclear when Nova Scotians will see the recommendations in this report.

As the new Minister of Justice, Indigenous and Black Nova Scotians are counting on you to deliver. So far, your government has failed to prioritize addressing environmental racism. By failing to treat this issue with the urgency it requires your government is sending a message to Indigenous and Black Nova Scotians. Your government's response to this important report – and the hard work that went into it – makes it seem like managing the public's opinion is more important to your government than solving these problems for all Nova Scotians.

We have said this over and over again, but it bears repeating: the public must be able to read the report. The Indigenous and Black communities who are living with generational health issues, dirty drinking water and spoiled land deserve to know what it says. More importantly, they have to be able to trust that there is a plan to move forward with measurable outcomes and timelines so that these harms don't continue.

If your government continues to shirk responsibility, pass this around departments like a political hot potato and hide the report, it begs the question: what do you not want the public to see?

All Nova Scotians should be able to count on a bright future in this province. As your first act as Justice Minister, we ask that you take the very first step in addressing the historic wrongs against generations of Indigenous and Black Nova Scotians and finally release the report.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Suzy Hansen".

Suzy Hansen
Official Opposition Critic for Justice
MLA, Halifax Needham