

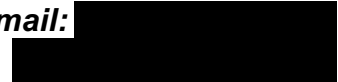


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PEJOVIC LAW



August 10, 2025

Via Email:



Susan Holt, Premier of New Brunswick



And To:

John Herron, Minister of Natural Resources and Energy Development



Dear Premier Holt and Minister Herron,

Re: *Restrictions on Crown Land*

I write on behalf of Charter Advocates Canada (CAC). CAC's purpose is to uphold Canadians' constitutional freedoms, civil rights and human rights. CAC's team of lawyers across Canada litigate in defense of these rights.

We are alarmed by your recent restrictions on access to all Crown land in the province of New Brunswick, including for hiking and fishing in the woods. Quite clearly, walking through the woods and fishing do not pose a risk of starting fires.

These restrictions infringe on Canadians' right to liberty protected under section 7 of the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*. Banning cigarette use and all recreational fires, increasing funding for patrols on this land to ensure compliance with these restrictions, and properly managing your forests are options available to you which do not unreasonably violate Canadians' *Charter* rights. Punishing Canadians by restricting their freedom to roam and enjoy nature is disproportional and not rationally connected to preventing forest fires.

Proceeding to implement overbroad, arbitrary and grossly disproportionate restrictions on New Brunswickers' *Charter* rights and freedoms may result those restrictions being challenged and overturned in Court.

We urge you to tailor your efforts to prevent forest fires in a manner that does not punish harmless and beneficial human activities. Treating people as the problem rather than targeting actions that actually create fire risks shows a serious and concerning disregard for human rights and individual liberty.

Sincerely,

PEJOVIC LAW



Allison Kindle Pejovic, L.L.M., L.L.B., B.A
Senior Counsel