

Below is a message for parents and guardians about cyber legislation. It is from the Government of Nova Scotia.



## **Intimate Images and Cyber-protection Letter to parents**

The rapid growth of smart phones, social media and the anonymity of the online world has created increasing opportunity for cyberbullying and the unwanted sharing of intimate images. The impacts of these behaviours can be devastating for victims.

It is important that you, and your children, have access to justice, and to the supports you need to respond to such behaviours.

The Intimate Images and Cyber-Protection Act was adopted in response to the growth of these issues. It provides victims with support and alternatives to criminal prosecution.

Victims can now access free dispute resolution services, including advice, negotiation, mediation and restorative justice. They can also seek a protection order through the courts for the alleged offenders to stop the activity, request removal of online content, prohibit further contact from the alleged offenders, and seek compensation for damages.

The province's CyberScan unit can help victims understand their options and navigate the justice system.

I would encourage you to check out our online resources, including a step-by-step guide on the legislation and sample court forms. These can be found at [novascotia.ca/cyberscan](http://novascotia.ca/cyberscan).

Free legal information and referrals to lawyers is also available through the Legal Information Society of Nova Scotia <https://www.legalinfo.org/>.

If you or your child wish to speak with a member of the CyberScan team, please call 902-424-6990 or toll free at 855-702-8324.

Yours truly,

Hon. Mark Furey  
Minister of Justice and Attorney General

Hon. Zach Churchill  
Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development

