

## **Public Utilities Act of Nova Scotia**

- 44** The Board may make from time to time such orders as it deems just in respect to the tolls, rates and charges to be paid to any public utility for services rendered or facilities provided, and amend or rescind such orders or make new orders in substitution therefor.
- 52** Every public utility is required to furnish service and facilities reasonably safe and adequate and in all respects just and reasonable.
- 67 (1)** All tolls, rates and charges shall always, under substantially similar circumstances and conditions in respect of service of the same description, be charged equally to all persons and at the same rate, and the Board may by regulation declare what shall constitute substantially similar circumstances and conditions.

## **Nova Scotia (Public Utilities Board) v NSPI (1976) 18 N.S.R. (2d) 692**

**para 17** CJ MacKeigan summarized the purpose of the Act as being “The scheme of regulation established by the Act envisages and indeed compels control by the Board of all aspects of a utility’s operation in providing a controlled service. Two great objects are enshrined – that all rates charged must be just, reasonable and sufficient and not discriminatory or preferential, and that the service must be adequately, efficiently and reasonably supplied to the public. Almost all provisions of the Act are directed toward securing these two objects – that a public utility give adequate service and charge only reasonable and just rates.”

## **Charter**

- 15. (1)** Every individual is equal before and under the law and has the right to the equal protection and equal benefit of the law without discrimination and, in particular, without discrimination based on race, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, sex, age or mental or physical disability.