

752 St. George Street, PO Box 100 Annapolis Royal, Nova Scotia, Canada BOS 1A0

Phone: (902) 532-2331 Fax: (902) 532-2096

Website: AnnapolisCounty.ca

October 29, 2023

Honourable Brad Johns
Chair
Law Amendments Committee
CIBC Building, Suite 802
1809 Barrington Street
Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 2X1
legc.office@novascotia.ca

Dear Chairman Johns:

Municipality of the County of Annapolis has now had a chance to review the proposed legislation as it relates to Bill 340 respecting Municipal Reform. Our Municipality received the proposed detailed funding chart several weeks ago and reviewed the legislation recently to ensure we fully understood the financial ramifications of the proposed changes and fairness for our Municipality as it compared to other municipalities in the province in relation to the proposed Bill.

After a thorough review, the changes are positive both in the short term and long term for Annapolis County. Additionally, the proposed new plan removes the cost-sharing by municipalities for provincial services of corrections and housing which has been a sore spot for more than two decades. We appreciate the province listening to our concerns regarding the removal of these costs.

We understand that Bill 340 is coming before the Law Amendments Committee on Monday, October 30, 2023. We are unable to attend in person due to scheduling conflicts however; we encourage the government to pass this Bill so that the residents of Annapolis County can see these savings immediately beginning on April 1, 2024.

We appreciate the province's sincere commitment to seeing this joint municipal / provincial process through to a successful conclusion.

Yours sincerely,

Chris McNeill
Chief Administrative Officer