

**From:** emilie chiasson [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** March 3, 2024 6:33 PM  
**To:** Office of the Legislative Counsel  
**Subject:** Antigonish Consolidation

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To members of the Law Amendments Committee:

I would like to express my support for the consolidation of Antigonish Town and County. I believe that this is in the best interest of our community moving forward.

Town and County Councils have been voted in to make decisions on behalf of their constituents and we must trust in their decisions. They have asked for the two municipal units to be consolidated and I fully support that.

The challenges communities like Antigonish are facing are much better faced together rather than apart. We are currently one community with two governing bodies with boundaries that most people don't know they are crossing.

In the grand scheme of things, both units are small and must strive to benefit from economies of scale. The only way our community is going to be successful into the future is if there is harmony and alignment between the two units and that is not guaranteed. Having one unit make decisions in the best interest of all is the way to successfully move forward.

I see garbage trucks and snowplows driving past my house to get to areas of the County. Half of some street have their garbage collected by the town and the other half by the county on the same days of the week. This is the definition of inefficient.

The Town and County of Antigonish have an interesting history. For decades residents have said, "why can't they just get along?" It is time for Antigonish to be represented by one council. Our community deserves to be represented by a council looking out for the betterment of everyone, not just a specific portion of the population.

Currently, the Town and County have a good relationship with many shared priorities and initiatives however that has not always been the case. This willingness to work together will only take us so far. When the people change, and it will, so will the alignment. Antigonish needs one municipal council making decisions in the best interest of the whole community.

The decision to consolidate was not taken lightly. It was an historical moment for our community and the province. Consolidation is forward thinking, and I know change is hard but I believe it is the option for future generations.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Emilie Chiasson