From:

Marian Munoz

Sent:

March 4, 2024 T0:37 AM

To:

Office of the Legislative Counsel; michellethompsonmla@gmail.com; Pre mier

Subject:

Consolidation of Antigonish Town and County

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To all MLA's of Nova Scotia and the Law Amendments Committee,

I am writing to express my disappointment in the special legislation that is before the Law Amendments Committee now, concerning Bill 407, the Antigonish Consolidation Act.

An overwhelming majority of Antigonish County and Town residents want a vote on this matter (plebiscite). The governments of Antigonish Town, County and the Province of Nova Scotia are ignoring the very people who had them elected, and not one of these governments ran on the issuue of consolidation.

Please defeat this legislation or withdraw it. Provide the people with the facts of consolidation, and let the residents decide! To this point, all we have been told (repeatedly) is that now is the time to consolidate, it will be good for us, we will have one voice in Antigonish. Other than reassurances that there will be no immediate changes regarding services, taxes, boundaries, utilities, etcetera, we are told that our questions will be answered once the consolidation is complete. We have had no clear demonstration of due diligence having been done.

If we, the people of Antigonish, are provided with a clear, concise plan laid out for consolidation, addressing the pros and cons, we may actually vote to proceed with the consolidation! However, without the facts, we cannot say if we are either for or against consolidation. We have two councils who have pushed this through with only an extremely slim majority vote, and again, done this without providing the full scope of the issue to the people.

This is a sad time for democracy in Antigonish and Nova Scotia.

Over 70% said they would not be voting for Michelle Thompson and Greg Morrow and the Conservatives, if this is forced upon us.

Marian Maguire-Muñoz Maryvale, NS 902-863-4419