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To: Office of the Legislative Counsel
Subject: Bill 407 - Antigonish Consolidation

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Premier Houston and all MLAs of Nova Scotia and the Law Amendments Committee

We are writing to express our total disappointment in the special legislation that is before the Law Amendments Committee now.

The decision of consolidation should be left to the Residents of Antigonish Town and County.

Please defeat this legislation or withdraw it.

The Councils were never elected to amalgamate/consolidate the Town and County. The dissolution of the Town and consolidation were never on any of the council members' campaigns.

In September 2021 both Councils decided they would explore the feasibility of consolidation the Town and County.

But, the goal post change, October 2022, both Council voted on consolidation of the Town and County. Which only passed by 1 vote in both Chambers and 2 Councillors from the County had to declare a conflict of interest. So much for exploring the feasibility and all the residents of the County having a voice in this matter.

But yet again the goal post changed, when Town and County discover that the cost for RCMP Service would cost additional \$1.5 million. It looks like the research in the cost factor was not full and correctly looked at with regards to consolidation. So, what other financial information is missing? In regard to this, what other factors are missing to make a comprehend and logical decision regarding consolidation.

The Mayor and Warden then decide that the Town would merge with the County to save the cost of additional RCMP Services. This change to the motion that was voted and passed during October 2022 meeting was never taken to Councils for votes.

Harry MacDonald
Jenny MacDonald

District 4 Antigonish County (22% of the County population)

Who did not have a voice during the October 22, 2022, and January 29, 2024, meeting as our Councillor was required to declare a conflict of interest.