

Municipal Autonomy Advisory Committee Statement of Municipal Interest

Recommended for Board approval on February 14, 2024

Approved by the Board May 8, 2024

Municipal-provincial relations should support a culture of respectful collaboration in pursuit of shared goals. Empowering municipalities to make decisions helps to seize important opportunities to address Nova Scotia's most pressing challenges.

Municipalities should be empowered to perform the legislated purpose of a municipality and make the decisions they believe to be necessary to ensure financial viability and a high standard of service to constituents.

Financial, legal, and operational capacity are significant factors in increasing municipal autonomy. By improving grounds for municipal capacity, municipal autonomy can be better utilized by all municipalities as a choice.

Municipalities should be supported in collaborating and acting on opportunities that their respective councils decide to pursue.

Legislated support for municipal autonomy in Nova Scotia should be on par with that found in other provinces. During this opportune and challenging time for Nova Scotia, municipalities are required to play a very active role in response to many pressing issues and in pursuit of valuable opportunities.