

Dear Ms. Wentzell

I am writing to you today to give notification that the Department of Municipal Affairs (DMA) has been working on updating the Financial Accounting and Reporting Manual (FRAM) that municipalities utilize annually. The primary goal for the update is to include the Safe Restart accountability reporting schedules in the FRAM for the Federal Safe Restart Fund (SRF) that was received in November 2020. The Association and the Federation were closely involved in the distribution of these Federal funds to municipalities and we are thankful for their support. In addition to the new reporting schedules for the Safe Restart Funding (SRF), there are a few grammatical changes to be made for consistency as well as minor updates such as the inclusion of a useful life range for Solar Panels, to assist municipalities in determining the maturity term of long-term financing for the solar panels.

Earlier this year the new reporting schedules were presented to municipalities for feedback. Based on the comments received, the SRF reporting schedules have been modified and a draft copy of the schedules were shared with all municipalities. In addition, all respective changes have been presented to the FRAM Committee, which has municipal administrative representation from a town, a rural, and a regional municipality. These members were given an opportunity to provide feedback on the recent updates to the FRAM.

Our Department is working on finalizing the newly updated FRAM. Once available, we will be distributing to municipalities and including the amended version of the FRAM on our website for easy access. We look forward to working closely with our municipal administrators as they begin the process of their 2020/21 financial reporting for transparency.

If you, or any municipalities, have any questions relating to the FRAM please do not hesitate to contact the Department to discuss.

Sincerely,



Justin Huston

CC: Juanita Spencer