



May 31, 2022

The Honourable John Lohr
Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing
PO Box 216
Halifax, NS
B3J 2M4

Re: 12-month notice letter

Dear Minister,

I am writing on behalf of East Hants Council as a result of your letter dated May 2, 2022 to Mayor Amanda McDougall, President of the Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities (NSFM), which was then provided to municipalities by the NSFM. This letter was sent under the provisions of the *Municipal Government Act* to provide 12-months' notice of any provincial legislation, regulation, or administrative actions that could have the effect of decreasing revenues or increasing the required expenditures of municipalities.

While your May 2nd letter provided a list of potential changes that may impact municipalities, it failed to provide sufficient detail with respect to possible impacts to revenues or expenditures. This notice period was intended to provide municipalities an opportunity to prepare through budgeting processes for these fiscal impacts. Without these details, municipalities have no way to be fiscally prepared. The spirit of the 12-month notice has been lacking for years and provides little benefit in the current form.

It would be appreciated if your department can provide more financial detail to these potential changes, so we can be better prepared for any fiscal outcomes that will impact our taxpayers.

Respectfully,



Eleanor Roulston, Warden

Cc: Mayor Amanda McDougall, President NSFM
Juanita Spencer, CEO NSFM