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May 10, 2022

Municipality of the District of Yarmouth
932 Highway 1

Hebron, NS B5A 5Z5

Delivered via email

Dear Warden Cunningham,

RE: NSFM Membership Dues

We understand that municipal councils must be responsible stewards of funds and thank you for this opportunity to explain recent changes to NSFM membership dues.

During the 2021 budget process, the Board of Directors authorized an increase to our membership dues. The purpose of the change was to accommodate a new staff position and to transition another position to full-time. The board agreed that the increase would be spread over two years with a portion of the cost coming from our surplus in year one to minimize the impact on our members.

Over the past three years, NSFM has worked to increase our capacity to assist our membership with their objectives. We look back on successes such as securing Safe Restart Funding, Code of Conduct legislation, expanded EPR, and a successful bid to design and deliver the provincial Sustainable Communities Challenge Fund. With additional capacity, we look forward to further progress including:

- Being engaged with the province in Service Exchange/MOU re-negotiation
- Optimizing our current programs and expanding our value-added services
- Assisting municipalities to lead in climate change mitigation projects

In addition, I would like to thank you and your Council for your input and support throughout NSFM's organizational change process. We share your vision of an organization that's efficient, effective, and able to engage with elected officials across the province. We will continue to consider the feedback of the membership as we create an organization equipped for 21st century advocacy.

Kind regards,

Juanita Spencer
CEO, Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities