

January 9, 2023

Brenda Chisholm-Beaton  
President  
Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities  
1809 Barrington Street, Suite 1304  
Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 3K8

Dear Brenda Chisholm-Beaton:

Thank you for your letter of November 7, 2022, providing feedback on behalf of the Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities on the design of permanent public transit funding. Your input provides an important regional context for the development and implementation of permanent public transit funding across Canada.

As we proceed through the design and development of our next generation of infrastructure funding, we will be encouraging integrated regional collaboration through base funding agreements on locally-driven planning exercises. Provincial and local governments, working together with stakeholders, will lay out their infrastructure investment plans and how they will meet goals set by the federal government, and funding decisions will be informed by those plans. The Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities with your regional network and capacity to convene key partners can offer valuable avenues to foster integrated regional planning.

Also, please note that Infrastructure Canada's Rural Transit Solutions Fund remains available. This fund targets the development of transit solutions in rural and remote communities. It is making \$250 million in federal funding available over five years to support the development of locally-driven transit solutions that will help people living in rural and remote areas get around their communities more easily day-to-day and connect with nearby communities.

...2

A request for proposals for new applications to the Fund is expected to be launched in the coming months. For any inquiries you may have about the Rural Transit Solutions Fund or the application process, please contact Infrastructure Canada at [RTSF-FSTCR@inf.gc.ca](mailto:RTSF-FSTCR@inf.gc.ca).

Thank you once again for providing feedback from the Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities.

Sincerely,



Jennifer O'Connell, M.P. Pickering-Uxbridge  
Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, Infrastructure  
and Communities

c.c. Andy Fillmore, M.P.  
Halifax

Lena Metlege Diab, M.P.  
Halifax West