

April 21, 2026

David Mitchell, President

- and -

Juanita Spencer, Chief Executive Officer

Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities (NSFM)

Via Email: david.mitchell@bridgewater.ca; jspencer@nsfm.ca

Dear David Mitchell and Juanita Spencer:

Thank you for your letter of March 26, 2026, requesting funding to support research activities related to water conservation at the municipal level. We appreciate NSFM's proactive efforts to strengthen municipal drought preparedness and welcome the opportunity to support this important work. Through this work, alongside ongoing collaboration at the provincial level, we can help communities anticipate and prepare for drought, rather than respond only when it becomes an emergency.

We are pleased to provide NSFM with \$62,328 to support this important work. Key deliverables of the project include:

- establishing an inventory of available municipal water equipment (i.e. water trucks, pumps, monitoring tools, etc.) to potentially support regional equipment sharing and mutual aid agreements for cooperation during drought conditions;
- developing example by-law wording and guidance for municipalities to support implementing a policy that allows the costs of water well improvements to be recovered through property taxes; and
- engaging municipalities to determine how they are implementing water conservation design and explore ways to leverage and empower the adoption of these design innovations.

Elizabeth Kennedy, Executive Director, Strategic Policy, Planning and Sector Relations, will serve as the liaison, oversee the transfer of funds, and provide guidance to ensure timely achievement of project objectives. Elizabeth may be reached either by email at elizabeth.kennedy@novascotia.ca or by phone at 902.225.4707.

We look forward to receiving a report of the project once it has been completed.

Sincerely,



Paul LaFleche
Deputy Minister

c: Valerie Pottie Bunge, Associate Deputy Minister, Department of Municipal Affairs
Elizabeth Kennedy, Executive Director, Strategic Policy, Planning and Sector Relations,
Department of Municipal Affairs