



**Municipal Affairs
Office of the Minister**

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January 7, 2026

Your Worship David Mitchell
Mayor, Town of Bridgewater &
President, Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities
Via Email: david.mitchell@bridgewater.ca

Dear Mayor David Mitchell:

Thank you for your letter of December 12, 2025, on behalf of the Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities, regarding my correspondence of November 24, 2025, addressed to Mayors, Wardens and Chiefs. Your feedback is appreciated, and I welcome the opportunity to clarify the intent behind this initiative.

The purpose of my letter was to share insights as I gain a deeper understanding of the provincial landscape. As we all head into budget discussions, I feel it is important to foster transparency and cooperation among local governments.

The information in the spreadsheet accompanying my letter included populations and consolidated revenue data to provide a consistent starting point for these conversations. The intent was to ensure representation in the broader provincial picture, not to make comparisons. I acknowledge that this information is one perspective among many.

Again, thank you for raising these important points, as well as for your work on behalf of those you serve. I share your commitment to openness and collaboration for the benefit of all communities in Nova Scotia.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John A. MacDonald".

John A. MacDonald
Minister of Municipal Affairs

c: Juanita Spencer, Chief Executive Officer, Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities

PNS-62935/hs