



L'hon. Lena Metlege Diab, c.r., CENE, députée
Ministre des Affaires acadiennes et de la Francophonie

C.P. 682, Halifax (Nouvelle-Écosse) B3J 2T3
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June 15, 2021

Amanda MacDougall
A/ President
Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities
Suite 1304, 1809 Barrington Street
Halifax, NS B3J 3K8

Dear Amanda McDougall, Acting President NSFM:

The Office of Acadian Affairs and Francophonie and the Department of Transportation and Active Transit are in the process of making changes to the *Traffic Signs Regulations* to allow bilingual (French/English) stop signs in Nova Scotia. This change is not mandatory but will, if agreeable, result in the replacement of English stop signs with bilingual ones.

The Office of Acadian Affairs and Francophonie (OAAF) will fund the replacement of bilingual stop signs that are located on provincially-owned roads in the communities listed below. The communities have been identified as having Acadian and French culture and history, or having a landmark or site that is of special interest to the Acadian community.

This change is a result of Acadian students from Clare who suggested the idea as part of the planning for the Congr s Mondial Acadien which will be held in Clare and Argyle in 2024. The Province is taking the opportunity to support the preservation of the language in Acadian communities that want to promote their linguistic and cultural heritage.

With the support of our colleagues at Municipal Affairs, we will be reaching out to the mayors/wardens of these communities this week to determine if they are interested in the replacement of unilingual stop signs to bilingual stop signs on provincial roads in their communities. We will be requesting that this item be added to the next available agenda of their council meetings so we can gauge interest as soon as possible.

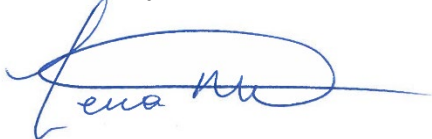
Confirmation of interest for the bilingual stop signs is all that is required from the communities at this time. While OAAF is still working out details for timelines around installation of such signs, the written responses from the communities will assist with planning.

Communities being consulted:

1. Chéticamp
2. Pomquet
3. Isle Madame
4. Rive-Sud (Cooksville)
5. Chezzetcook
6. Clare
7. Argyle
8. Tor Bay
9. Annapolis Valley

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this initiative, please do not hesitate to contact Mark Bannerman, Executive Director, of the Office of Acadian Affairs and Francophonie, at 902-424-3821 or Mark.Bannerman@novasotia.ca.

Sincerely,



Lena Metlege Diab, c.r., C.E.N.E.
Minister

CC: Juanita Spencer, CEO, NSFM
Mark Peck, Associate Deputy Minister, Municipal Affairs
Mark Bannerman, Executive Director, of the Office of Acadian Affairs and Francophonie