

September 9, 2019

Honorable Chuck Porter, Minister
Department of Municipal Affairs
14th Floor North, Maritime Centre
1505 Barrington Street
P.O. Box 216
Halifax NS B3J 2M4

Dear Minister Porter:

Please consider this letter as a formal request for the Province of Nova Scotia and the Government of Canada to provide additional funding in the amount of \$3,290,160 for the Parrsboro Wastewater Treatment Plan and Collection System.

The Municipality was a successful recipient of funding under the Clean Water and Wastewater Fund (CWWF) for this project. In addition to this program funding, the Municipality had budgeted other revenues to fund this project. Budgeted revenues and used in the CWWF application and actual costs incurred on this project are as follows:

	<u>Original Budget Used In Project Application</u>	<u>Actual Project Costs</u>	<u>Budget If CWWF Was Based On Actual Costs</u>
CWWF – Federal	\$4,304,268	\$ 4,304,268	\$ 6,497,714
CWWF – Provincial	2,152,134	2,152,134	3,248,848
Letter of Intent	1,345,000	1,407,180	1,407,180
Municipal Reserves	173,000	594,060	594,060
Depreciation	0	137,786	137,786
Long Term Debt	634,134	4,400,000	1,109,832
	<u>\$8,608,536</u>	<u>\$12,995,427</u>	<u>\$12,995,427</u>

The original budget (and funding application) was based on an engineering estimate completed by the former Town of Parrsboro and supported by a second engineering estimate completed during the dissolution transition process.

The Municipality had little recourse but to proceed with this project as the CWWF program was expiring and the Federal restrictions to complete Wastewater Treatment facilities was in the near future. The result is that the approved Provincial and Federal funding fell far short of the amount that would have been provided based on actual costs. The Municipal cost sharing increased from 9% of costs to 39% of actual costs.

The Municipality encourages you to consider this funding request in a positive manner due to the following reasons:

- 1) As indicated above, the funding would have been significantly greater had the funding applications been based on more accurate estimates;
- 2) The burden that the funding shortfall places on residents is a negative result in the municipal restructuring initiative for the Parrsboro residents and we believe that you and Municipal Affairs and Housing staff want success for the residents of Parrsboro and for municipal restructuring results;
- 3) Discharging treated wastewater vs. untreated wastewater is very positive in the promotion of the Bay of Fundy as a first class world tourism destination. We trust that you are well aware of the attractions that exist and the potential for further development. We believe that you agree with us in the objective of being good stewards of our environment; and
- 4) As a specific example, making the Bay of Fundy as pristine as possible is important to our recent initiative to obtain UNESCO approval for Nova Scotia's very first Geopark.

We are also encouraged by a number of recent Federal and Provincial project and funding announcements for a wide range of projects, including wastewater projects.

Lastly, we request you work on our behalf in discussing and negotiating additional funding from the Federal Government.

Sincerely yours,



Allison Gillis
Warden

p.c. Tory Rushton , Cumberland South
Mark Peck, Municipal Affairs
Jason Haughn, Municipal Affairs
Aileen Waller-Hebb, Municipal Affairs
Rennie Bugley, CAO