



**Municipal Affairs
Office of the Minister**

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October 13, 2026

Your Worship Abraham Zebian
Mayor
West Hants Regional Municipality
Via Email: mayor.zebian@westhants.ca

Dear Mayor Zebian:

Thank you for your letter of October 1, 2026, regarding the Municipality's proposed Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Residential Property Buyout Program for properties affected by flooding and sewer backup events.

I appreciate the Municipality's efforts to identify proactive solutions for residents impacted by these challenges and recognize the work being undertaken to address the effects of increasingly frequent extreme weather events.

The Department of Municipal Affairs does not have an existing funding program for which eligibility aligns with a municipal residential property buyout initiative of this nature. As a result, the Department is unable to provide the financial commitment you have requested.

We appreciate your sharing the Municipality's proposal and keeping us informed of your ongoing work in support of affected residents. I wish you success as you continue to explore creative solutions to address these challenges.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'John A. MacDonald'.

Honourable John A. MacDonald
Minister of Municipal Affairs

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