



March 18, 2025

Sent electronically to: dmamin@novascotia.ca

Dear Honourable Minister John Lohr, Minister of Municipal Affairs, Minister of Finance and Treasury Board

RE: Minister Lohr's February 11, 2025 Letter requesting support

Please accept the following letter on behalf of the Council for the West Hants Regional Municipality (WHRM) regarding your letter sent to all municipalities on February 11th requesting that municipalities – either in writing or by press release – support the government's recently announcement that Nova Scotia must say "yes" to both a reduction in inter-provincial trade barriers, and to resource development within our province.

Following receipt of this letter, WHRM received several pieces of correspondence from residents expressing concerns over the government's perceived plan to put forward a bill that would lift blanket bans on uranium exploration and hydraulic fracking of fossil fuels. These same residents urged West Hants Regional Municipal elected officials to reflect carefully on the request before providing unreserved support.

During the February 25, 2025 meeting, the letter received from Minister Lohr, along with the several other pieces of correspondence from residents within the Municipality, sparked a lengthy discussion among Council members. Throughout the discussion, Council emphasized the importance and need for more information around the request made by Minister Lohr as it did not provide any specific details or plans.

To better understand this matter, we would appreciate it if you could provide information on the Province's plan and benefits regarding resource extraction and plans to address public safety and water quality in West Hants.

To formally express the current position of the Council who met on February 25, 2025, to discuss this matter the following motion was ratified:

"the Municipality respond to Minister Lohr's letter by asking for more details about the Province's plans concerning resource extraction in West Hants, how the Municipality might be involved in the

development of resources, how the Province anticipates this resource development might benefit West Hants, and how public safety; particularly water quality will be guaranteed along the way”.

West Hants Regional Municipality thanks you for your attention to this matter and we look forward to hearing from you.

Respectfully,



Abraham Zebian, Mayor

ds/az

CC: Premier of Nova Scotia, The Honorable Tim Houston
Member of Parliament for Kings-Hants, Kody Blois
Melissa Sheehy-Richard, MLA Hants West
WHRM Council
Chief Administrative Officer, Mark Phillips