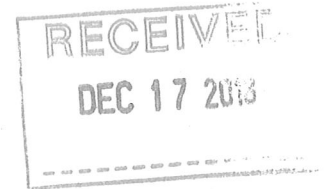




**Attorney General  
Justice  
Office of the Minister**



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DEC 12 2018

Mr. Alan Muisse  
District of Argyle  
PO Box 10  
Tusket NS B0W 3M0

Dear Mr. Muisse,

Nova Scotia's Accessibility Act, passed in September 2017, sets a goal of an accessible province by 2030. It provides a framework for improving accessibility in areas of: the built environment; transportation; the delivery and receipt of goods and services; information and communication; employment; and education.

In September, the Government of Nova Scotia released the two enclosed documents to guide this work. I invite you to review and share them with your municipal colleagues. (They are also available online at [novascotia.ca/accessibility](http://novascotia.ca/accessibility).)

- **Access by Design 2030** is the province's accessibility strategy, identifying priorities and key actions for becoming a more equitable and inclusive province.
- **The Government of Nova Scotia Accessibility Plan (2018-2021)** outlines how Government, as an organization, will improve accessibility in our policies, programs and services over the next three years.

The commitments outlined in these documents will require collaboration and commitment from government and our partners across the province, including municipalities. I know there is work already underway at many municipalities to improve accessibility. To inform this work, the Department of Municipal Affairs and the Accessibility Directorate have established the Provincial/ Municipal Accessibility Working Group, co-chaired by Jeff Cantwell, Mayor of Wolfville and Gerry Post, Executive Director, Accessibility Directorate.

One of the first accessibility standards to be developed is in the built environment, directly impacting the municipal sector. This work will begin immediately with the establishment of a standard development committee to assist the Accessibility Advisory Board in providing recommendations on the content of the standard.

Next year, municipalities will be prescribed as public sector bodies under the Act. This means that, within a year of being prescribed, municipalities will be required to establish an accessibility committee and accessibility plan. The Accessibility Directorate is working with the Department of Municipal Affairs on this process, and will be in touch with further details.

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For more information about this work, please contact Gerry Post, Executive Director, Accessibility Directorate at 902-424-6975/ [gerry.post@novascotia.ca](mailto:gerry.post@novascotia.ca). We look forward to collaborating with municipalities as we work toward a more accessible, inclusive province for all Nova Scotians.

Yours truly,



Mark Furey