

1809 Barrington St., Suite 1304, Halifax, NS B3J 3K8 - Tel: (902) 423-8331 - E-mail: info@nsfm.ca

October 17, 2024

Allyson O'Shea Senior Policy Analyst Department of Justice PO Box #7 1690 Hollis Street Halifax NS B3J 2L6

RE: FOIPOP Act Review – Engagement with Municipal Units Delivered via email

Dear Allyson,

Thank you for reaching out and engaging with municipal units with regard to possible legislative changes to the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FOIPOP). We appreciate the efforts of the FOIPOP Review Working Group to hear and assess the ideas and concerns around this important matter.

Attached, we have assembled our issues and concerns for your consideration, which can broadly be outlined in two areas:

- Concerns raised by municipalities
- Impact of the Act on NSFM, as a not-for-profit organization

Any changes in legislation must consider that the duly elected Council should be able to balance the work around access and privacy against other priorities in their communities. Further, consider what supports will be available to municipalities should some or all of these changes be adopted. Support for policy, process, and technological changes necessary to be compliant with legislation should also be considerations.

We would be pleased to discuss these items in greater detail. Thank you for the opportunity to participate in your review process.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Bolivar-Getson

President

Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities

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