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October 18, 2024

Hon. Barbara Adams
Attorney General & Minister of Justice
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 Minister Adams,

I am writing in reference to possible legislative changes to the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FOIPOP). We have been engaged with and appreciate the efforts of the FOIPOP Review Working Group to hear and assess the ideas and concerns around this important matter.

We have assembled and submitted our issues and concerns for consideration of the Working Group and trust they will be reviewed constructively. A prime concern, however, is the impact the possible changes will have on municipal autonomy and the ability of duly elected Councils to balance privacy concerns with other issues, challenges, and concerns at the community level. Municipalities are generally smaller in scope and resource-challenged in practice; several of the changes being contemplated will be impactful, both in terms of cost and time, on their ability to serve the tax-paying public.

We wanted to communicate our concerns directly to you. We would be pleased to discuss these items in greater detail and thank you for the opportunity to be engaged in the review process.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Bolivar-Getson

President

Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities

Carly- Bolivas Solom

CC: Hon. John Lohr, Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing Byron Rafuse, Deputy Minister, Municipal Affairs & Housing