



June 19, 2025

The Honourable Dave Ritcey, Minister
Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage
1741 Brunswick Street, 3rd floor
PO Box 456, STN Central
Halifax, NS
B3J 2R5

Via Email: MIN_CCTH@novascotia.ca

Re: Library Funding

Dear Minister Ritcey,

I am writing on behalf of East Hants Municipal Council to urge your government to provide appropriate funding to libraries, so they can continue to provide services to support our growing population.

In our region, the Colchester-East Hants Public Library is experiencing an increase in visits and use of our libraries. Specifically this translates to a 36% increase in program attendance and 11% increase in visits, both of which continue to grow. Libraries are often the heart of our communities and offer a wide range of programs and services for our residents.

We understand the Library Funding Review Committee provided recommendations to the government for the next funding model in September 2024 for review and consideration by your government. We hope that decisions will be made soon as increasing community demand will require additional resources and more open hours. This will require additional staff to support those demands and adequate wages will be part of the solution to ensure appropriate staffing numbers.

Continuous operations on deficit budgets are not sustainable and will result in fewer open hours, cuts to services, staff layoffs and possible branch closures and this is of great concern to our Council.

We look forward to an update soon on the next funding model.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Eleanor Roulston". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first name and last name clearly distinguishable.

Eleanor Roulston, Warden

Cc: NSFM Membership