



January 16, 2020

Hon. Minister Porter  
Department of Municipal Affairs  
PO Box 216  
Halifax, NS B3J 2M4

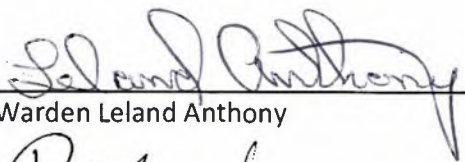
Dear Minister Porter:

The Municipality of Yarmouth, Town of Yarmouth and Municipality of Argyle have all passed resolutions requesting the Department of Municipal Affairs coordinate a facilitated conversation on consolidation and/or municipal governance reform. We would like to extend our appreciation to you and your department for your ability to support with municipal conversations of this nature.

The three resolutions (copies enclosed) contain levels of specificity for each unit while at the same time recognizing that each unit values the importance of regional cooperation.

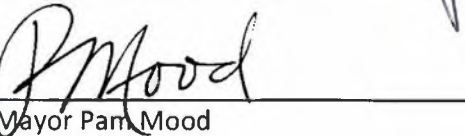
We look forward to hearing from you in the near future regarding details for a facilitated session with the three units.

Yours truly,



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Warden Leland Anthony



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Mayor Pam Mood



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Warden Danny Muise

/lasd

Enclosures - Resolutions (3)

cc: Mark Peck

MinisterPorter.ConsolidationDiscussion



***It was moved by Councillor Trevor Cunningham and seconded by Deputy Warden John Cunningham that:***

***WHEREAS the MODY Council's 6 strategic priorities include 4 of a regional context indicating an acknowledgement of the strength in regional context; and,***

***WHEREAS the MODY Council seeks to foster a vibrant, safe, economically strong, and diverse community through an enduring legacy (already evidenced through approved strategies, programs, investments in financial stewardship practices and in updated policies and by-laws); and,***

***WHEREAS the Councils for the Municipality of the District of Argyle, the Municipality of the District of Yarmouth, and the Town of Yarmouth recognized the critical importance of regional cooperation to the growth and prosperity of the region; and,***

***WHEREAS Council values the importance of building past efforts for regional cooperation and understands that further collaboration benefits all residents of the region; and,***

***WHEREAS the Councils for the said Municipalities agree that discussions should take place with each other to explore opportunities for structural change, and that these discussions would be most productive if coordinated and facilitated by representatives of the province of Nova Scotia;***

***BE IT RESOLVED that the Municipality of the District of Yarmouth submit, in concert with the Municipality of the District of Argyle and the Town of Yarmouth, a formal request to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing for the Province of Nova Scotia to coordinate a non-binding facilitated session between the said Councils, to discuss the potential consolidation of the said Municipal Units, such session to be held within the next 45 days.***

***Motion carried unanimously.***

## RESOLUTION OF COUNCIL

Resolution number 2020-01

Dated January 13, 2020

**Whereas** the Councils for the Municipality of the District of Argyle, the Municipality of the District of Yarmouth and the Town of Yarmouth recognize the critical importance of regional cooperation to the growth and prosperity of the region;

**Whereas** Council values the importance of building on past efforts for regional cooperation and understands that further collaboration potentially benefits all residents of the region;

**Whereas** Council recognizes that municipal cooperation and collaboration shall be improved dramatically with structural and governance reform;

**Whereas** Council recognizes that there are alternatives to structural and governance reform, one of which includes a full consolidation of two or more units – and wishes to learn more about these options;

**Whereas** the Councils for the three municipalities agree that discussions should take place with each other to explore opportunities for structural reform, and that these discussions would be most productive if coordinated and facilitated by representatives of the Province of Nova Scotia;

**Whereas** while municipal structural and governance reform is required for growth and prosperity, the Municipality of the District of Argyle is home to many Acadian residents, in communities that require special consideration for the preservation of minority language and culture.

**Whereas** the Municipality of the District of Argyle has taken a firm position on the preservation of our provincial riding, and that a court of law has requested that the Province return our Provincial riding to its original boundaries in the interest of protecting and preserving Acadian minority language rights.

**And Whereas** communication and public engagement is critical to any successful review of structural change, regardless of its form, and Argyle residents have traditionally been actively engaged in municipal government;

Now therefore be it **resolved** that

1. That the Municipality of the District of Argyle submit a formal request to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing for the Province of Nova Scotia to coordinate a facilitated session between the Councils for the Municipality of the District of Argyle, the Municipality of the District of Yarmouth and the Town of Yarmouth to discuss structural reform, including a discussion on a potential consolidation of the three Municipal Units, such session to be held within the next 45 days.
2. That the Municipality of the District of Argyle submit a formal request to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing to include the lens of francophone Acadian minority rights in their facilitated discussion, and to consider the preservation of those rights in their presentation on municipal structural and governance reform.
3. That the Municipality of the District of Argyle ensure that any and all discussions result in open and transparent communication to the public, and that the communication may be coordinated with the other two units or be independent of the units.

## **BUSINESS ARISING**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Compost Quality Control Policy Amendment**

**[0h 15m 14s]**

MOVED BY Deputy Mayor Mooney, SECONDED BY Councillor Cleveland, that Council adopt the amendments of sections 3.0.b & 3.1-5.4 of the Compost Quality Control Policy which reference rejected loads, industrial animal waste, managerial guidelines, and schedule of costs & prices. COU-2020-01-09-001

MOTION CARRIED

#### **Pension Transfer Process - Next Steps**

**[0h 29m 16s]**

MOVED BY Councillor MacLeod, SECONDED BY Councillor Berry, that Council approve the continuation of the work to transfer the Town of Yarmouth pension plan to the Public Sector Superannuation Plan (PSSP), including the engagement and education of employees, and conducting the required employee vote. COU-2020-01-09-002

MOTION CARRIED

#### **Municipal and Other Authorities Pension Plan Transfer Act**

#### **Request For Decision - Facilitated Discussion Concerning Yarmouth County Consolidation**

**[0h 32m 34s]**

MOVED BY Deputy Mayor Mooney, SECONDED BY Councillor Hood, that Town Council submit, in concert with the Municipality of the District of Argyle and the Municipality of the District of Yarmouth, a formal request to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing for the Province of Nova Scotia to coordinate a facilitated session between the said Councils, to discuss the potential consolidation of the three Municipal Units, such session to be held within the next 45 days. COU-2020-01-09-003

MOTION CARRIED

#### **Election Signs**

**[0h 51m 38s]**

MOVED BY Deputy Mayor Mooney, SECONDED BY Councillor Hood, Whereas, 2020 is a Municipal election year, which will be followed by a Provincial election as early as next year, and yet another, inevitable, Federal election;

And whereas, this means thousands of plastic lawn signs will be produced at great personal expense to the candidates and their supporters, with the majority being discarded following the election;

And whereas, while election signs are an important source of revenue for some local sign-making businesses, it should be noted that many signs are produced elsewhere, and discarded signs are a risk for adding dangerous plastics to our oceans from which many more local citizens make a living;