



September 12th, 2013  
via email

Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities

Attn: Councillor Russell Walker, President

Dear Councillor Walker,

Thank you for your questionnaire. The best way to address your concerns and discuss how a Progressive Conservative Government under Jamie Baillie's leadership would address them requires that we deviate from your format, with apologies.

Our entire approach is to bring about change that works. We understand the serious challenges facing municipalities in Nova Scotia, and offer some innovative solutions. Our goal is to fix the fundamentals. Aside from encouraging the economies in all communities to thrive by reducing taxes and freezing power rates, a Jamie Baillie PC Government would:

Ensure municipalities and our Aboriginal peoples fully benefit from local resource developments by allowing municipal units and First nations to retain 100% of resource royalties on new on-shore projects within their respective jurisdictions.

Make Nova Scotia a province of 1,000,000 people by 2025 with a new Population Growth Plan.

To increase Nova Scotia's population, build a stronger case with the federal government to permanently increase the cap for new Canadians to Nova Scotia under the provincial nominee program.

To help reverse population decline in rural Nova Scotia, expand the Student Career Skills Development Program to make it easier for young people to find employment in rural communities.

Apply more resources to rural communities through the creation of Rural Growth Zones, consisting of a specific set of policies to help high unemployment rural communities.



We have supported CBRM's innovative infrastructure funding cost share request and see it as a potential model. This respects the priorities set by the municipality.

We will pass a Cape Breton Regional Municipality Charter.

Taking a different economic development approach by tackling the fundamentals is one way we will make decisions in the long term interest of all Nova Scotian communities.

Growing as a Province will cause the tax bases in communities to grow. We must end the unofficial and unacceptable current government policy of managed decline.

You will find a Jamie Baillie-led Progressive Conservative Government a willing partner in discussions with municipalities. We can look at the other issues you mention with an open mind

Please let us know if you have more questions.

Thank you again,

Progressive Conservative Campaign