



The Union
of Nova Scotia
Municipalities

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TOWN CAUCUS CHAIR:

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September 27, 2013

Premier Darrell Dexter
Leader
Nova Scotia New Democratic Party
1660 Hollis Street, Suite 1006
Halifax, NS B3J 1V7

Dear Premier Dexter:

Thank you for your response to our questionnaire on September 20, 2013. I was pleased to see in your response that the NDP values a constructive relationship with the UNSM.

I must say actions speak louder than words, and trust that in the future, the actions of your government will demonstrate your support for municipalities.

Municipalities have helped your government achieve the Back to Balance goal. This has not been without hardship to municipal taxpayers.

UNSM has expressed on numerous occasions the need to sit down with you and discuss how we can move forward. We offered to develop a foundation for working together through a new Memorandum of Understanding. We were disappointed that you chose not to respond to our request.

Following the election, the UNSM would like to meet with you to discuss how we can work together. We serve the same taxpayers, and we recognize there are no easy answers to the challenges facing both orders of government. However, failing to work together will only serve to weaken the relationship between the Province and municipalities.

We will be undertaking Advocacy Days in the near future, where UNSM Board members meet with provincial MLAs to discuss key municipal issues. I would ask you to encourage your members to meet with UNSM Board members when Advocacy Days are announced. More information on this initiative to follow.

Sincerely,

Councillor Russell Walker
President, UNSM

RW/tv