



UNSM

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**Municipal Affairs
Office of the Minister**

PO Box 216, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada B3J 2M4 • Telephone 902 424-5550 Fax 902 424-0581 • novascotia.ca

JAN 09 2015

Keith Hunter
President
Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities
Suite 1106, 1809 Barrington Street
Halifax, NS B3J 3K8

Dear Mr. Hunter:

Keith

I am writing in response to Mayor Corkum's October 22, 2014 letter on behalf of UNSM regarding the final report of the Governance and Dispute Resolution Sub-Committee of the Towns Task Force. I understand that all of the Towns Task Force recommendations have now been submitted to Government.

There are now numerous recommendations from the municipal sector for Government to consider – coming from the Fiscal Review, Towns Task Force, Property Tax Study, and the Annual UNSM Resolutions. I would like to bring these recommendations together in a more manageable process, and I have raised the concept of a Partnership Agreement for this purpose. One of the goals of a Partnership Agreement will be to identify the highest priority recommendations from the various initiatives that both the UNSM and the Province agree to implement. I have asked department staff to commence discussions with the UNSM on the development of a partnership agreement in the new year as this will allow for consideration of the comments received from the Fiscal Review consultation process.

I look forward to working with you and the UNSM Board over the coming year.

Yours truly,


Mark Furey