

Resolution 11A

INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION (PASSED)

⇒ Halifax Regional Municipality

WHEREAS the federal long term infrastructure plan under development intends to support economic growth and job creation; and

WHEREAS timely and efficient program administration will assist the plan in achieving those goals; and

WHEREAS clear, consistent eligibility criteria will ensure fair and equitable program delivery across Canada; and

WHEREAS sustainable and reliable program-based funding mechanisms enable ongoing infrastructure renewal to be undertaken while adhering to rigorous reporting requirements;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities request that the Province of Nova Scotia and FCM advocate for program criteria that are clear, consistent, and administered consistently; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities also write the Province of Nova Scotia and FCM requesting that the new long term infrastructure plan mandate that program details and processes be available no later than 60 days after program creation and/or announcement; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities advocate to the Province of Nova Scotia and FCM that the new long-term infrastructure plan utilize program-based funding such as the Gas Tax to ensure sustainable and reliable funding while ensuring transparent and accountable reporting on the use of funds and that the projects municipalities put forward be allowed to stand in order of priority if they meet the applicable requirements.

Forwarded to
Minister of Service Nova Scotia & Municipal Relations
&
Chief Executive Officer of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities

RESPONSE:

I am pleased to send to you the Department's response to the 2012 Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities (UNSM) Resolution.

The Provincial and Federal governments are working together to create jobs and boost the economy, while making significant investments that help communities improve their infrastructure. The new infrastructure plan announced by the Federal government has not yet been developed but it is always our goal to ensure fair and equitable programs with clear and concise criteria. In the negotiation process, we look at lessons learned from past programs and input from our municipal partners in order to improve in all areas we can, so suggestions such as this are welcome.

Once the new infrastructure plan is in place, we are committed to ensuring that these funds are delivered as quickly and efficiently as possible to eligible recipients in Nova Scotia and will be sharing more program details as soon as they become available.

*The Honourable John M^{ac}Donell
Minister
May 1, 2013*