

SOUTH SHORE-ST. MARGARET'S Collaboration

WHEREAS on October 8, 2013 Justin Trudeau, the Leader of the Liberal Party of Canada, made the following statement on the election of Stephen McNeil as Premier-designate of Nova Scotia:

“I very much look forward to working with Stephen as we seek to guarantee access to affordable, high-quality education, build a stronger, thriving middle class and increase openness and transparency for Canadians.” and

WHEREAS on October 19, 2015 Justin Trudeau led the Liberal Party of Canada to the formation of a majority Canadian federal government promising a new era of cooperation between federal, provincial, territorial and municipal levels of government; and

WHEREAS the new Liberal federal government was elected on the basis of specific policy priorities and commitments respecting cooperation and federal investment and effort to support real change (<https://www.liberal.ca/realchange/>):

- A new direction for our economy, investing in - people, and things that make our everyday lives better, transit, roads, ports, clean energy, schools, hospitals - The basic infrastructure our economy needs to grow and we need in order to get ahead.

(<http://www.liberal.ca/infrastructure-plan/>);

- Programs for child care, post-secondary education, youth, seniors, veterans, students, families, the middle class, investors, municipalities and greener communities, jobs and skills training, agriculture,, etc. (<http://www.liberal.ca/backgrounders/>) and

WHEREAS on December 14, 2015 Nova Scotia's Minister of Finance stated;

“ ... I would love to be able to invest more in areas that matter to Nova Scotians - new and improved schools, state-of-the-art hospitals, better programs for seniors and those in need. Quite frankly, we can't get there if we don't stick to a fiscal plan that matches our programs and services to our ability to pay.” and

WHEREAS both the present Federal and Provincial Liberal governments share many of the same policy and program priorities; and

WHEREAS a new era of federal/provincial/municipal cooperation and investment should be enhanced by the election of Liberal governments in both Nova Scotia and federally; and

WHEREAS all Nova Scotia ridings are now represented by MPs who will represent Nova Scotians in Ottawa and sit in the Federal Liberal caucus and Parliament; and

WHEREAS communities across the province could benefit from the organization of efforts at the local and provincial levels to identify specific opportunities, initiatives and needs that could be the focus of this said cooperation and investment and that the input of local communities would be helpful if communicated to municipal, provincial and federal governments in an organized fashion; and

WHEREAS the Liberal Parties of Nova Scotia and Canada can provide a riding and provincial base to organize and promote these efforts of local residents in their cooperation efforts with the Provincial/ Federal governments;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that

- a) the Nova Scotia Liberal Government support the creation and development of community groups and fora to provide venues to support public input to discuss, identify and recommend initiatives and proposals for implementation of priority policies at the federal, provincial and municipal levels;
 - b) the Nova Scotia Government formulate programs and projects and allocate resources for collaborating with the Federal Government to optimize the allocation of resources to carry out the priorities identified at the local level;
 - c) annual planning and priorities forums be established at the county, regional and provincial level to measure and report on progress in attaining goals set based on agreed to measures of priorities and policies at the provincial and federal level.
-