



**Attorney General  
Justice  
Office of the Minister**

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January 19, 2021

Warden Ronnie Leblanc  
Municipality of the District of Clare  
PO Box 458  
1185 Highway 1  
Little Brook, Digby Co. NS B0W 1Z0

Dear Warden Leblanc:

On December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019, the Government of Nova Scotia announced that the Municipality of the District of Clare will be prescribed as a public sector body under the *Accessibility Act* as of April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020.

Last spring, some public sector bodies shared concerns about capacity to meet their obligations under the Act, given the impact of Covid-19. I recognize the unprecedented challenges facing all Nova Scotians, and I committed to adjusting the timelines to ensure there is sufficient time and capacity to support the development of your accessibility plan.

I am pleased to announce a one-year extension to the prescription deadline. This means that the Municipality of the District of Clare will be prescribed as a public sector body under the Act as of April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021. The Municipality of the District of Clare must form an accessibility advisory committee and have an accessibility plan in place by April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022. Despite this extension, I encourage you to continue progressing with your accessibility planning.

The Accessibility Directorate has developed several resources to assist you in meeting your obligations under the *Accessibility Act*, including Accessibility Planning Toolkit for Prescribed Public Sector Bodies, the Accessibility Planning Toolkit for Municipalities, and the Interim Accessibility Guidelines for Indoor and Outdoor Spaces. These resources are all available online at [novascotia.ca/accessibility](http://novascotia.ca/accessibility). In addition, the Accessibility Directorate is developing a series of webinars, which will be available soon to further guide our collaborative efforts.

Work is well underway across the province, as accessibility advisory committees are being established and the development of accessibility plans are beginning. Some prescribed bodies have formed a joint accessibility advisory committee and are developing a joint accessibility plan with other prescribed public sector bodies that share similar interests, as this is permitted under the Act.

We look forward to continuing to support you in this important work. For assistance to further information, please contact Carla Bezanson at 902-440-5007 or [Carla.bezanson@novascotia.ca](mailto:Carla.bezanson@novascotia.ca).

Thank you for your continued commitment to building an inclusive province for all Nova Scotians.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mark Furey". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Mark" being more prominent than the last name "Furey".

Mark Furey