

# MUNICIPALITY OF DIGBY

P.O. BOX 429

DIGBY

NOVA SCOTIA

B0V 1A0

May 15, 2018

Dear Mayor/Warden

## **Re: Letters of Support for Completion of Highway 101 Digby to Weymouth – Phase 2 Funding**

A Joint Task Force for the Completion of Highway 101 from Digby to Weymouth was formed in 2012 with municipal representative from the Municipality of Digby, the Town of Digby, the Municipality of Clare and the Village of Weymouth. Representatives from the Town of Yarmouth joined the committee a few years later. The mandate of the committee was to work together to lobby both the Federal and Provincial governments that the portion of uncontrolled access Highway 101 from Digby to Weymouth needed to be completed.

The Warden of the Municipality of Digby at that time, Warden Linda Gregory, stated that *“Through collaboration and joint efforts we hope to attain our long sought-after goal in efforts to increase safety which is a major concern.”*

*“Transportation infrastructure is vital to the long term economic growth of our municipality.”* Warden Ronnie LeBlanc said. *“The completion of Hwy 101 from Weymouth to Digby would provide a faster and safer route for our products to get to market.”*

*“The benefit of completing this section of the 101 Series Highway in Digby County would be measured by job creation, business growth and attraction plus improved safety.”* said Ben Cleveland, Mayor of the Town of Digby. *“The reality is that motorists today are too distracted and to send large amounts of traffic through residential areas is not acceptable”.*

The Task Force met with local stakeholders and major users of that section of highway and heard their concerns and stories of “near misses”.

All these efforts paid off with the announcement of Phase 1 with the Federal and Provincial cost sharing the estimated cost of \$ 17 million. This included construction of a new highway to just before the Middle Cross Road, approximately 4 km of the 26 km stretch to Weymouth, a watercourse structure over Seely Brook, and a rail to trail bridge over Highway 101.

With funding secured and construction started on Phase 1 of the completion of the highway from Digby to Weymouth it is time to again begin lobbying our Federal and Provincial governments so that funds for Phase 2 can be secured in a timely manner.


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We are asking your help by writing letters to Premier Stephen McNeil, with copies going to Colin Fraser, MP for West Nova, Honourable Lloyd Hines Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure renewal, and Gordon Wilson, MLA for Clare Digby asking that the Federal and Provincial governments approve funding for Phase 2 for the completion of the highway to Weymouth. We are told that the Federal government will soon be releasing their National Transportation Infrastructure Program so we want to make sure that Phase 2 is on the radar of our federal and provincial elected officials.

Letters can be send to our CAO, Linda Fraser [lfraser@municipality.digby.ns.ca](mailto:lfraser@municipality.digby.ns.ca) who will forward them to the appropriate elected officials. I am also attaching a copy of the letter the Municipality of Digby will be sending.

Thank you for your support,



Warden Jimmy MacAlpine



Deputy Warden Linda Gregory, Chair of the Highway 101 Joint Task Force

# MUNICIPALITY OF DIGBY

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DIGBY

NOVA SCOTIA

B0V 1A0

May 14, 2018

The Honourable Stephen McNeil  
Premier of Nova Scotia  
7th Floor, One Government Place  
1700 Granville Street  
Halifax, Nova Scotia  
B3J 1X5

Dear Premier McNeil:

Over six years ago, the Municipality of the District of Digby formed the "Completion of Highway 101 between Digby and Weymouth Task Force". Members of the Task Force included representatives from the Town of Digby, the Village of Weymouth, the District of Clare, and the Town of Yarmouth. Digby Clare MLA Gordon Wilson attend as well as staff from NSTIR. Jason Deveau from MP Colin Fraser's office is also invited to the meeting. Local stakeholders also attend the meeting and a stakeholder e-mail distribution list is used to provide information to local residents


The Municipality of the District of Digby, and the members of the Task Force are very pleased that Phase 1 of the project has started and the sub-grading of the new highway from Marshalltown to the Middle Cross Road is ongoing. With the construction started on Phase 1, the Task Force is now focusing their efforts on seeing that funding for Phase 2 of the project is secured. We are requesting that the province, in partnership with the federal government make the completion of the remaining portion of the uncontrolled access highway from Digby to Weymouth one of your government's top priorities.

The incomplete section of highway is absorbing significantly increasing traffic pressure, including heavy truck traffic, which has a very serious safety impact on the users and residents along this highway. This unfinished section of Highway 101 negatively impacts commercial interests between Yarmouth through Clare and Digby to/ from the ferries and to the Valley.

Between Digby and Weymouth there are approximately 523 driveways and homes that front the highway as well as 23 side roads that intersect the highway. Children stand along the side of the road waiting for the school bus. In addition to the school buses, garbage trucks, transport trucks, logging trucks, Kings Transit Bus Service, Fire, Police, EHS, private vehicles all use this section every day, often at high speeds.

On behalf of the Council of the District of Digby, the members of the Task Force, community and business stakeholders, I am requesting that Phase 2 Funding for the completion of the highway from Digby to Weymouth be a top priority when negotiating with the Federal government for highway infrastructure funding.

Sincerely,



Jimmy MacAlpine, Warden

Cc: Colin Fraser, MP West Nova  
Honourable Lloyd Hines, Minister Transportation & Infrastructure Renewal  
Gordon Wilson, MLA Clare Digby