

CAPE BRETON REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

OFFICE of the MAYOR

August 9, 2016

The Hon. Zach Churchill, Minister Department of Municipal Affairs PO Box 216 Halifax, NS B3J 3K5

Email: dmamin@novascotia.ca Zoeh

Dear Minister Churchill:

Re: Regional Economic Development Cooperation - 2016/17 Pilot Project

Further to my previous request and follow-up discussions for a 50/50 contribution towards economic development, I would like to recommend we consider 2016/17 as a pilot year. The pilot would include the inclusion of trade and marketing, building on the accomplishment of a Foreign Trade Zone as well as tourism and cultural-based industry development.

These two areas are major growth areas in addition to traditional economic development within the Municipality. The City has written to confirm further investment cost-shared with the federal government on the Foreign Trade Zone, and a copy of the most recent marketing initiative is attached. The CEO of Destination Cape Breton, Mary Tulle, is working with City officials on a go-forward basis for a new tourism and cultural industry strategy that will affect all sectors of the local market phase.

In addition, the cruise terminal expansion project will require many new supports to foster and support expanded opportunities. This public infrastructure project will necessitate a coordinated economic strategy in addition to proposed downtown revitalization initiatives.

I look forward to your response and advancing the cost-share request that requires no new dollars in addition to the 2016/17 economic development budget the CBRM as a region would be eligible for under the current funding formula.

Thank you for your continued interest and leadership.

Warm personal regards,

Cecil P. Clarke

CPC/tfd Attachment - I

c: Ms. Kelliann Dean, Deputy Minister, DMA

Mr. Michael Merritt, CAO, CBRM

Ms. Marie Walsh, CFO, CBRM

Mr. Mark Peck, Exec. Dir., Policy, Planning &Advisory Services, DMA