



CAPE BRETON REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

OFFICE *of the* MAYOR

September 15, 2017

Hon. Randy Delorey  
Minister of Health and Wellness  
Province of Nova Scotia  
E-mail: [Health.Minister@novascotia.ca](mailto:Health.Minister@novascotia.ca)

Dear Minister Delorey:

I am writing to you in regards to an outstanding receivable with the Nova Scotia Health Authority for a sewer area rate and a fire protection rate. The amount is at a level that as such, it will be noted in the upcoming Audit for the municipality and will likely hit a management letter going to Department of Municipal Affairs. The auditors are questioning the collectability of this receivable which would lead to a write off and a direct hit to the bottom line of the Municipality. The receivable currently sits at \$2,062,484.51 which represents 11% of our total outstanding taxes.

The Municipality has the Authority under sections 79 and 80 in the *Municipal Government Act* to charge these area rates and is charged on the basis outlined in by-law A-200. In fact, it is my understanding that the department of health is in possession of a legal opinion drafted by the provincial department of municipal affairs that confirms our ability to charge area rates for the services referred to above. These user rates are paid to other municipalities, particularly HRM who collects a sewer rate through the water utility.

We currently score poorly in the Municipal indicators around outstanding receivables largely due to this outstanding receivable from the Health Authority. I would ask that you please address this issue before our auditors meeting of September 25.

Warm personal regards,

Cecil P. Clarke

CPC/lfj  
cc: Hon. Geoff MacLellan  
Hon. Derek Mombourquette