Justice Office of the Minister

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MAR 0 9 2020

Warden Ronnie LeBlanc Municipality of the District of Clare PO Box 458, 1185 Hwy 1 Little Brook NS B0W 1Z0

Warden LeBlanc.

The Accessibility Act was proclaimed in 2017, demonstrating the Nova Scotia government's commitment to a more equitable and barrier free province. The Act recognizes accessibility as a human right, and sets a goal of an accessible Nova Scotia by 2030.

Since the Act was proclaimed, the Accessibility Directorate has been working closely with the municipal sector to keep you informed of your obligations under the Act and to provide you with the support you need.

On December 3, 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 Act as of April 1, 2020. This means that the Municipality of the District of Clare must form an accessibility advisory committee and have an accessibility plan in place by April 1, 2021.

Note that prescribed bodies are permitted to form a joint accessibility advisory committee and develop a joint accessibility plan with other prescribed public sector bodies that share similar interests.

We are pleased to share with you the Accessibility Planning Toolkit for Municipalities. This resource offers a recommended approach to forming an accessibility advisory committee and developing an accessibility plan. We have also enclosed Wolfville: Access By Design. The Accessibility Directorate worked closely with the Town of Wolfville to pilot the development of Nova Scotia's first municipal accessibility plan under the Accessibility Act. Both these resources are also available on our website at novascotia.ca/accessibility.

We look forward to working together to achieve our ambitious goal of an accessible province by 2030. For assistance or further information, please contact Gerry Post, Executive Director, Accessibility Directorate at 902-424-6975, or gerry.post@novascotia.ca.

Thank you for your commitment to accessibility and creating an inclusive province for all Nova Scotians.

Yours truly,

Mark Furey Minister of Justice Chuck Porter

Minister of Municipal Affairs