



Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal
Office of the Minister

PO Box 186, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada B3J 2N2

January 7, 2010

Councillor Stephen Adams
Spryfield-Herring Cove
Halifax Regional Municipality
PO Box 1749
Halifax, NS B3J 3A5

Dear Councillor ^{Stephen} Adams:

Thank you for your November 24, 2009, and January 5, 2010, letters concerning paving of the gravel portion of Duncans Cove Road and enhanced maintenance for Chebucto Head Road, in Halifax Regional Municipality.

Duncans Cove Road is a provincially owned and maintained road and is listed in two sections. The first section is "G" class with a paved surface 900 meters in length. The second section is listed as an "H" class road with a gravel surface and is approximately 375 meters in length.

Since 2002, the Department has had funding for the Aid to Municipalities Program approved in its annual budgets. Initially, funding was available for paving of "J" class subdivision roads only. However, in 2006, the program was expanded to include other road classifications. As you are aware, each year municipalities have been invited to identify road priorities for consideration under the program. In spite of the fact that eligibility criteria had been broadened, the priority lists submitted continued to focus almost exclusively on "J" class roads.

For next year's program, we will continue to entertain requests from municipalities to pave non "J" class roads, provided they have similar characteristics and usage as "J" class roads, which are typically around volumes of 300 vehicles per day and a speed limit of 50 km/hr.

Chebucto Head Road, on the other hand, is not a public highway nor is it maintained by the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal. It is a private road owned by the Government of Canada and exists for the purpose of providing access to the Chebucto Head Light Station. Requests for enhanced road maintenance, including snow removal, should be directed to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

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Since the Provincial-Municipal Service Exchange in 1995, the Department no longer accepts ownership or lists new local roads into the Provincial Road inventory. The acceptance of new local roads has been a municipal responsibility since 1995. For the Halifax Regional Municipality, this would include acceptance of roads in areas outside of the core.

Thank you for bringing the concerns of the residents of Duncans Cove and Chebucto Head to my attention.

Sincerely,



Bill Estabrooks, M.B.
Minister

c: Bruce Fitzner, Chief Engineer
Peter Merritt, District Director-Central
Michèle Raymond, MLA Halifax Atlantic