



PO Box 532, Yarmouth NS, B5A 4B4
902-742-3074

March 18, 2020

Yarmouth County Municipal Units
Delivered via Email

RE: COVID-19 Relief for Taxpayers

Dear Mayor & Wardens,

The Yarmouth & Area Chamber of Commerce is the voice of business in South Western Nova Scotia, with a progressive membership of almost 300 business and community leaders representing businesses of all sizes in all sections of the economy. In addition we believe that we can speak for citizens at large on this issue.

With the current pandemic situation unfolding we believe that urgent action is needed in order to help address the immediate financial concerns that businesses and individuals are experiencing. The Yarmouth & Area Chamber of Commerce would like to suggest the following actions by the municipal units to provide some financial relief to businesses and all municipal tax payers;

- Suspend all interest charges and collections on property taxes until at least June 1, 2020
- Suspend all interest charges and collection on water and sewer charges until at least June 1, 2020
- Relaxed parking restrictions within the Town of Yarmouth
- To pay all bills urgently to local vendors where possible to ensure liquidity

We would hope that the Department of Municipal Affairs would assist with any financial pressures that this may place on municipal government.

We have gathered many stories from local businesses that are experiencing severe effects from this crisis and I expect that there will be significant consequences to our local economy. We can only hope that we will get through this with minimal damage.

I would encourage you to reach out to myself should you be interested in working with us to develop creative ways to cope with this crisis. Feel free to reach out at any time by phone 902-742-3074 or by email rallwright@yarmouthchamberofcommerce.com

Best regards,

Rick Allwright
Executive Director
Yarmouth & Area Chamber of Commerce

cc'd
Zach Churchill, MLA
Chris d'Entremont, MP