

Re: Letter of support for Spiri Robotics, Inc.

In recent conversation with the team at Spiri Robotics, Inc. it has been brought to our attention that they are applying for funding to carry out a variety of marine bathymetric data and other observations using cost-effective and innovative methods. If successful, their focus area will be in the Municipality of Argyle.

The Municipality of Argyle has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Province of Nova Scotia, and together we are working towards establishing an Aquaculture Development Area (ADA) for marine plants and shellfish. An ADA is an area that has been identified, assessed, and preapproved as a suitable and sustainable site for aquaculture. The work has been extensive, and along with many other federal, and provincial departments, as well as industry and other stakeholders, we have been mapping the area through the collection of bathymetric data, eel grass, natural oyster beds, ghost gear, lobster grounds, navigation routes, water data, currents, rockweed cultivation, and wildlife, including bird habitats and other protected areas.

We welcome Spiri Robotics into our region and into our Lobster Bay area. We fully encourage and support their project. It will not only provide us with data, but it will also do so in a new manner; one that could save us time and money. This ADA will require monitoring on a regular basis, and we believe Spiri Robotics have the technology we require to do so in a cost-effective timeframe.

The timing of the project very much aligns with the ADA timeline, as we near the submission to cabinet.

We trust you will find value in their application and process, and we hope they are successful.