

**Councillor Request for Information**

**U Included on Agenda**

(Submitted to Municipal Clerk's Office  
by Noon Thursday)

**9 Added Item**

(Submitted to Municipal Clerk's Office  
by Noon Monday)

**Date of Council Meeting: September 8, 2009**

**Subject: Revised Resolution on Public Transit**

**Request:**

I would like this item added to the Regional Council Agenda on Tuesday, September 8, 2009.

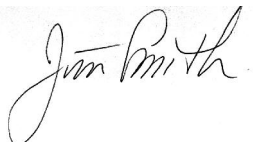
**Reason:**

Nova Scotia currently provides one of the lowest levels of provincial funding for public transit in Canada. As in the past the Province has had a policy of not investing in operating funds for transit. However in recent years public expectations around transit and greener methods of transportation have changed markedly. The Province has acknowledged this by funding the Transit Operating Incentive which provides \$2 million for municipalities to create transit systems. Increased funding for public transit would support sustainable transportation options as well as attracting people and businesses to the region. UNSM support would be useful in re-opening discussions on transit funding with the Province.

The revised resolution combines the resolutions from the Town of Wolfville and HRM. I will be asking for Council's approval of the revised amendment.

**I would like this response as:**

- Email to Mayor and/or Councillor/Municipal Clerk's Office
- Memo to Mayor and/or Councillor/Municipal Clerk's Office
- Information Report to     Community Council     Regional Council
- Recommendation Report to     Community Council     Regional Council



Councillor Jim Smith

District 9

## **Public Transit Resolution**

Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal  
Public Transit

- Halifax Regional Municipality
- Town of Wolfville

**WHEREAS** public transit systems have significant environmental benefits for municipalities and the Province as a whole; and

**WHEREAS** increasing energy prices and concerns over carbon emissions are leading to increased demands on public transit systems; and

**WHEREAS** demand for public transit is growing in both urban and rural areas; and

**WHEREAS** the shift of all responsibility for public transit to municipalities was made under vastly different circumstances and must be reviewed;

**WHEREAS** the Province has developed a fund for municipalities to access in order to assist with public transit operating funds; and

**WHEREAS** Nova Scotia has one of the lowest levels of public transit funding in Canada;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities and municipalities operating transit systems enter into discussions with the Province of Nova Scotia concerning the possibility of increased operating funding for public transit within the Province; and

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities urge the Provincial Government to re-engage in the provision of public transit in the Province of Nova Scotia and work with the municipalities to develop a public transit strategy for the Province.