



November 7, 2025

Sent electronically to: premier@novascotia.ca; OSDMIN@novascotia.ca; FinanceMinister@novascotia.ca; MentalHealth.Minister@novascotia.ca; Minister of Health and Wellness; dmamin@novascotia.ca; kody.blois@parl.gc.ca; melissa.mlaoffice@gmail.com

Dear: The Honorable Tim Houston, Premier of Nova Scotia

Honourable Barbara Adams, Deputy Premier, Deputy Premier, Deputy President of the Executive Council, Minister of Seniors and Long-term Care, Minister of Opportunities and Social Development and Minister responsible for Military Relations

Honourable John Lohr, Minister Minister of Finance and Treasury Board and Minister of Labour Relations

Honourable Brian Comer, Minister of Addictions and Mental Health

Honourable Michelle Thompson, Minister of Health and Wellness, Minister responsible for the Office of Healthcare Professionals Recruitment and Minister responsible for Healthcare Redevelopment

Honourable John White, Minister of Housing

Honourable John A. MacDonald, Minister of Municipal Affairs

Kody Blois, Member of Parliament for Kings-Hants

Melissa Sheehy-Richard, MLA Hants West

RE: Request for Provincial Support in Establishing a Winter Warming Centre in Windsor, Nova Scotia

On behalf of the Council of the West Hants Regional Municipality (WHRM), we are writing to formally request that the Province of Nova Scotia take ownership and responsibility for ensuring the establishment and operation of a winter warming centre in Windsor Nova Scotia, within the West Hants Regional Municipality, for the upcoming cold season.

At present, West Hants does not have a dedicated warming centre for individuals seeking a safe, warm space to escape the harsh winter elements. As temperatures continue to drop, the need for accessible, reliable shelter options for our most vulnerable residents becomes increasingly urgent. Many individuals in our community, particularly those experiencing homelessness or housing insecurity, have limited or no access to safe shelter during extreme weather events.

Local organizations, volunteers, and municipal staff have worked tirelessly to bridge these gaps in recent years. However, the scale and urgency of need now far exceed the capacity of our local resources. Without provincial leadership and funding, our community cannot sustain the services required to protect residents from the dangers of exposure during the winter months.

A provincially supported warming centre in Windsor would provide immediate relief to residents in crisis and reduce the strain on emergency services, healthcare facilities, and law enforcement during extreme cold conditions.

We are asking the Province to assume responsibility for planning, funding, and operating a warming

centre in partnership with local agencies; ensure sustainable funding for staffing, supplies, and operations through the winter months and to continue to coordinate efforts with local service providers to provide wrap-around supports such as mental health, housing, and social services at the site.

This position has been formally endorsed through the following motions passed at the Council Meeting held on October 28, 2025:

“Council direct the Chief Administrative Officer to write a letter to the Province urging them to take the responsibility for providing a warming shelter in West Hants for the coming winter”.

The West Hants Regional Municipality remains committed to working collaboratively with the Province to ensure the safety and well-being of all residents. We would welcome the opportunity to meet and discuss this request further at your earliest convenience.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'AZ' or similar initials, followed by a horizontal line.

Abraham Zebian, Mayor

ds/az

CC: WHRM Council
Chief Administrative Officer, Mark Phillips