



**Attorney General
Justice
Office of the Minister**

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May 9, 2025

Via Email: johnc@munyarmouth.ca

John Cunningham
Warden
Municipality of the District of Yarmouth
932 Highway 1 Hebron
Nova Scotia B5A 5Z5

Dear Warden John Cunningham:

Re: Request for Review of the Nova Scotia Accessibility Act – Advisory Committee Membership Qualifications

Thank you for your letter of April 10, 2025, requesting a review of the accessibility advisory committee requirements in Nova Scotia's *Accessibility Act*.

The *Accessibility Act* prioritizes the input of people with disabilities in achieving accessibility in Nova Scotia. Section 44 of the Act sets out requirements for the membership of accessibility advisory committees. At least half of the members of these committees must be persons with disabilities or representatives from organizations representing persons with disabilities.

Caregivers, advocates, professionals, and others with relevant experience also have valuable insight into how to make our province accessible, and they are encouraged to participate in accessibility work. This includes participating as members of accessibility advisory committees and can be up to 50% of the membership of the committee.

If a committee member has a disability or is representing an organization that supports persons with disabilities, then the committee member would count toward the 50% representation of people with disabilities.

The *Accessibility Act* must be reviewed every five years for its effectiveness. The next review of the Act will begin in 2026-27 and we will take this issue into consideration as part of that review. In the meantime, thank you for sharing your feedback.

If you have any further questions, please let us know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'BD', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Becky Druhan
Attorney General and Minister of Justice

cc: Dawn Stegen, Executive Director, Accessibility Directorate
Victoria Brooks, Municipality of Yarmouth CAO
Councillor Jim Baxter, Accessibility Advisory Committee Chair