

December 31, 2023

Municipality of East Hants
Lloyd E. Matheson Centre
15 Commerce Court
Elmsdale, NS B2S 3K5

Attention: Adam Clarkson

Dear Mr. Clarkson:

Re: Special Hazard Municipal Response

This will confirm our meeting of December 6, 2023, in respect of the creation of a revised MOU, related to Hazardous Materials Response.

As outlined at that time, Special Hazards was formed January 1994 through the efforts of the Provincial Office of Emergency Management. Recognizing the infrequent nature of hazardous materials incidents, it was agreed in concert with the Municipality of the County of Colchester that a response team would be created. Colchester Municipality agreed to supply funding, a building, insurance and building operating costs. Such support has continued and expanded throughout the last 30 years.

This model was expanded to include service to a total of 21 Municipal entities. This included all municipal units from Nova Scotia/New Brunswick Boarder, Halifax Municipality border and to the Canso Causeway. The funding model was established at 0.41 cents per head of population. At that time 2 additional Level B Support Hazmat units were established being Amherst Fire and New Glasgow Fire. These support units remain active. The funding model was established so that Special Hazards would receive 60% of the funds allotted and 40% would be shared between Amherst and New Glasgow. After the recent Canadian Census, the municipal units agreed to increase the cost per head of population to .52 cents per head of population.

At the outset of the agreement and signing of the MOU, the Municipality of East Hants was not prepared to pay 100% of the funding model and has provided over the last 30 years only 60% of the funding payable to Special Hazards. All other municipalities from the outset paid 100%.

The responses to the Municipality over the last 30 years have been varied and inclusive of:

- Private swimming pool chemical release (1 person hospitalized)
- Drug lab
- Chemical release Shaw Brick
- Chemical release/fire Lantz Daycare
- Major acid release Scale House Enfield
- Residential fuel tank failure
- Fuel tanker rollover
- Tractor trailer rollover (fuel release) – frequent occurrence
- Chemical release East Hants pool

..... Page 2

Page Two

With the expanding population of the Municipality of East Hants such calls will continue to increase. The Municipality of the County of Colchester and the Municipality of East Hants will continue to be the primary response volume for Special Hazards Response Unit.

It is important to note that both New Glasgow and Amherst support teams bring to response additional trained responders, weather model plumbing and decontamination equipment.

To that end, as per our discussion in support of a strong response capability the Municipality of East Hants increase their annual contribution to this shared service to 100% at .52 cents per head of population.

The shared response service is most cost effective as to establish a stand-alone Hazmat response unit would exceed two (2) million dollars, plus annual operational costs and training.

We thank you for your consideration of the increased annual payment.

Yours truly,

Bruce G. Langille

c.c. Kelly Ash, EMO East Hants
David Westlake, EMO Colchester