



**Public Works
Office of the Minister**

PO Box 186, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada B3J 2N2

APR 22 2025

Eleanor Roulston, Warden
Municipality of East Hants
15 Commerce Court, Unit 170
Elmsdale, NS B2S 3K5
eroulston@easthants.ca

Dear Warden Roulston:

Thank you for your letter dated March 21st, 2025, regarding maintenance of K class roads.

K-class roads are considered unmaintained by the Department of Public Works (DPW) and are not part of the provincially maintained road network. In their current state, they may be passable depending on conditions, but they are not actively serviced by DPW. These roads can be permanently improved to meet standards for reclassification and future residential development, typically through work undertaken by developers or nearby landowners. An approved permit from the local DPW office is required before any construction or upgrades are carried out.

DPW remains open to working with municipalities to identify long-term access solutions, including secondary routes to support emergency response. However, the responsibility for constructing new roads or upgrading existing K-class roads to a maintained standard lies with the municipality. This framework has been in place since the 1995 Municipal Service Exchange, which transferred the responsibility for new local road infrastructure to municipal governments.

Should the Municipality wish to take on responsibility for any specific K-class road, the province is open to discussing a transfer of ownership to support local planning and access needs.

Thank you again for sharing your concerns. If you have any further questions or concerns, please contact Patrick Lemal, P.Eng., Area Manager, by phone at 902-798-6968 or by email at patrick.lemal@novascotia.ca.

Sincerely,

Fred Tilley
Minster of Public Works

c: John A. MacDonald, MLA Hants East
Gary Rafuse, District Director, Central
Patrick Lemal, Area Manager, Hants