



NEWS RELEASE

For interviews or more information, contact:

Councillor Geoff Stewart
NSFM President
Phone: 902-790-3121
Email: president@nsfm.ca

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NSFM Supportive of Adjusting Compensation for Elected Municipal Officials

Halifax, July 3, 2018 -The Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities (NSFM) is recommending that compensation of elected municipal officials be adjusted to prepare for upcoming changes to a 70-year-old tax law. The old law was introduced by the federal government in recognition of the fact that municipal elected officials incurred many expenses while holding public office.

“Under the 2019 tax laws, a councillor in a small- to mid-sized Nova Scotian town with no other sources of income should expect to see about 10.5 per cent less take-home pay, and 12.9 per cent less for a rural councillor,” stated NSFM President Geoff Stewart. “I’ve spoken with mayors, wardens, deputies, and councillors across the province, and they’ve made it clear that these tax changes are big enough to make holding public office unaffordable for a number of us,” Stewart added.

The NSFM Board passed a motion at its meeting in June 2018 recognizing the need to support elected officials in avoiding abrupt changes to remuneration. The NSFM is recommending that pre-tax compensation for elected officials be adjusted to allow them to maintain the same levels of post-tax compensation after the 2019 laws take effect. For further information visit www.nsfm.ca.

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