



**Emergency Management
Office of the Minister**

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December 15, 2025

To: Municipalities across Nova Scotia

Subject: End of the Bottled Water Reimbursement Program

Dear municipal leaders,

We wish to inform you that the Department of Emergency Management will be winding down the bottled water reimbursement program at the end of this calendar year, December 31, 2025. As water levels across the province have been restored, the program's original purpose has been fulfilled.

This program was launched in response to the extreme drought our province faced this summer, which left many residents with dry wells. To help affected communities, we initiated a temporary program to reimburse municipalities for bottled water provided to residents whose wells had gone dry. The program was not intended for well refilling, but rather to ensure access to safe drinking water during this emergency.

Drought is now a predictable and expected issue in Nova Scotia, and as such, no longer an emergency. The Department of Emergency Management is shifting away from an emergency response to this issue, and government is moving toward a long-term and coordinated approach to managing drought.

We appreciate your efforts in supporting residents during this challenging time.

Please ensure that any outstanding reimbursement claims are submitted by January 31, 2026, so they can be processed before the program concludes.

If you have any questions or require assistance, please contact:

Ryan Doherty Ryan.Doherty@novascotia.ca and Joanna Forgeron Joanna.forgeron@novascotia.ca.

Thank you for your continued commitment to the safety and wellbeing of your communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Kim Masland'.

Kim Masland

Minister, Department of Emergency Management