EAST HANTS GROUND SEARCH AND RESCUE
11 Slate Quarry Road, Upper Nine Mile River, NS B2S 2Z5
email: easthantsgsar@hotmail.com

October 5, 2026

Calvin Byard

Manager of Protective Services

Box 230, Suite 170, 15 Commerce Court

Elmsdale, Nova Scotia

B2S 3K5

Dear Mr. Byard;

East Hants Ground Search and Rescue (EHGSAR) is submitting an application for funding under the 2026 Regional Emergency Services Provider Fund. We are respectfully requesting the Municipality consider supplying a letter of support for our proposed project.

The project being proposed is the purchase a 2026 Mercedes Benz All Wheel Drive 15 passenger Sprinter Van. The applied for funding will total approximately $142,000 with EHGSAR being responsible for 10 % of that amount.

The Deadline for submissions is October 31, 2026.

The project would not only highly upgrade our team's transportation capabilities but be utilized regionally as well. There are four Ground Search and Rescue teams in the Department of Emergency Management's (DEM) Region 3, those being East Hants, Colchester, Springhill and Pugwash. This vehicle will be made available for various uses as required and not limited to search activities alone.

The recent DEM report, *Modernizing Ground Search and Rescue in Nova Scotia: A Path Forward* identifies the potential for deployment of GSAR teams during civil emergencies. This project would supply the ability for EHGSAR to supply transportation to our own and other comfort centers, assist in evacuations where necessary, or provide efficient transportation of large numbers of EHGSAR volunteers to required locations. In, addition, this vehicle could act as both a mobile cooling and warming space if needed.

With the proper identification markings, this vehicle will provide refreshed and

professional representation of not only our team but the Municipality as well and will be used at all public events where EHGSAR is in attendance.

Please find attached a letter of support for this project that we gratefully received from Colchester Ground Search and Rescue.

On behalf of our members, your consideration to support our application for funding for this project is very much appreciated.

If you have any questions regarding our request or application, please do not hesitate to contact me at any time.

Respectfully submitted,

Ian Morrison

Vice President

EHGSAR Grant Committee Chair

Cell: 778-989-3663