



Naturally Yours

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July 28, 2023

Department of Public Works  
2nd Floor, Johnston Building  
1672 Granville Street  
P.O. Box 186  
Halifax, NS B3J 2N2

Attention: Honourable Kim Masland, Minister of Public Works  
Email: [publicworksminister@novascotia.ca](mailto:publicworksminister@novascotia.ca)

**Re: Enhancing Safety and Accessibility of Tin Mine Road**

Dear Minister Masland,

During the recent Barrington Lake wildfire, the Districts of Shelburne and Barrington were cut off from one another for an extended period of time, resulting in the only direct line of communication being around Highway 203, ("Tin Mine" Road). Although the wildfire demonstrated the essential need for this secondary link between Shelburne and its neighbouring south-west municipalities (Clare, Yarmouth, Argyle, Barrington), the degraded state of the road hindered emergency and regular traffic, causing significant delays and highlighted safety concerns, particularly at night. Due to our local geography and the lack of alternative routes to connect with our southwest neighbours, the wildfire emergency has certainly highlighted the importance of the Tin Mine Road as an essential alternate safety and backup route.

During the Council Meeting held on July 12, 2023, our Council unanimously expressed concern regarding the alarming condition of the Tin Mine Road and strongly urge the Provincial Government to take immediate action to upgrade the condition of this road to a state where traffic can flow freely without degraded conditions, causing significant delays and safety concerns. Given the significant impact that climate change has had on the Province this year, with hurricanes, wildfires and dramatic rainfall events, we urge Government to recognize that these events are likely to continue in the years ahead and therefore highlight the importance of maintaining our vital infrastructure to an effective and safe state.

A link to a video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5WZjCFctZWs> depicting the Tin Mine Road's poor state is provided to demonstrate the severity of the situation. It will provide a comprehensive understanding of the challenges faced by our community due to the road's unsuitability.

We hope that you recognize the importance of upgrading the Tin Mine Road and request a follow-up meeting with either yourself or your team to discuss this matter. We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Penny Smith". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "P" and "S".

Warden Penny Smith

- C: Nolan Young, MLA – Shelburne
- Municipality of the District of Yarmouth
- Municipality of the District of Argyle
- Municipality of the District of Barrington
- Municipality of the District of Clare