



NS-IEG-2024

Stephane Cyr Chief Administrative Officer Municipality of the District of Clare 1185 Highway 1 Little Brook, NS B0W 1M0 Via Email: cao@munclare.ca

Dear Stephane Cyr:

Re: Regional Enterprise Networks Review

As many of you will be aware, in 2021 the Department of Economic Development, through the Department's mandate letter, was directed to review investment and attraction mechanisms and structures that support economic development in our province. Over the past several months the Department has been engaging in a series of interviews, interactive sessions, and discussions around our vision for economic growth, the existing tools and partnerships that support this shared work, and opportunities to support continued growth in Nova Scotia.

One area of focus has been on the existing structure of the Regional Enterprise Networks considering what is working well and what could be improved. In addition to the structure, great discussion was had around the programs and supports delivered by the RENs across the Province. Many of you participated in these discussions, and we are grateful for the time and consideration contributed to this work.

It is too early to conclude the outcome of these and other discussions around improvements for mechanisms and structures to support economic growth in Nova Scotia. The goal of any changes will be establishing an improved framework for supporting business, entrepreneurs, communities and our partners in innovation in our shared goal of growing our economy and overall prosperity in Nova Scotia.

We are expecting to have more details to share at the conclusion of our consultations and review. If you have additional thoughts to share around the RENs or other programs and support for economic growth in Nova Scotia, please email: EDStakeholders@novascotia.ca.

Yours truly,

Scott Farmer Deputy Minister

C: Angelique LeBlanc, CEO Western REN