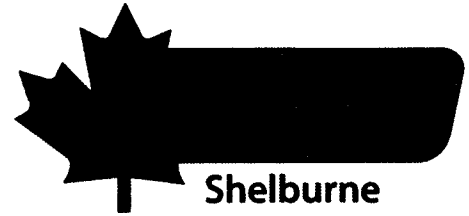

COMMUNITY BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Shelburne County Business Development Center Limited
Working with ACOA serving rural Atlantic Canada



Law Amendments Committee
November 16, 2012
Shelburne

My name is Dixie Redmond
I am the Executive Director of the Shelburne County Business Development Center.

Today I represent the united voice of our local volunteer Board of Directors - a non-profit community-based organization funded by the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency. We are mandated to provide financing and business advisory services to small business throughout Shelburne County.

We have concerns for how your proposed boundary changes will impact our community.

We are concerned this division will cause us to lose our identity as a county, and to lose opportunities to be gained as a united voice. This division will create a negative social and economic impact for the residents and businesses of Shelburne County who are working together to support and share services and resources, such as health and education.

For example - If an MLA represents two counties and has to support one hospital how can they choose, and how will they choose?

The population within this proposed region would potentially cause voting inequalities for the residents of Shelburne County; no longer giving us a local voice in the future of our communities and eliminating any reasonable opportunity to see local representation voted into power.

We feel these changes will have a negative impact on future economic development goals impacting growth for Shelburne County.

We work with all communities in Shelburne County and we make a difference together.

We have questions about the unforeseen consequences this division might have on our future.....

Will ½ of us become part of Argyle District and ½ of us part of Queens District - sharing their resources, hospitals, economic development and other services?

Our concerns boil down to the consequences of having no local MLA and of a political division in our County.

We respectively suggest the best solution is status quo.
Leave us with a local voice in the House of Assembly.

Please respect our concerns for the future of communities in Shelburne County and our neighbors.

Thank you