

Bill #407
Antigonish Consolidation Act

CARRIED
March 25, 2024
Hon. John Lehr
CWHB Bill 407

CHANGES RECOMMENDED TO THE
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE ON BILLS
BY THE MINISTER OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS AND HOUSING

PAGE 1, Clause 2 -

(a) add immediately before the definition of "Consolidated Municipality" the following definitions:

"Board" means the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board;

"Board Liaison and Coordinator" means the Board Liaison and Coordinator appointed under Section 5;

(b) **definition of "Coordinator"** - delete;

(c) **definition of "Town"** - replace the semicolon with a period;

(d) **definition of "Transition Committee"** - delete.

PAGE 1, Clause 3, line 1 - delete "On" and substitute "Subject to Section 6, on".

PAGE 2, subclause 5(1) - delete and substitute the following subclause:

(1) The Governor in Council shall appoint a person, for such term and on such conditions as the Governor in Council determines, to be the Board Liaison and Coordinator for the duration of the Board's involvement in, and any transition period leading to, the dissolution of the Town and continuation of the County.

PAGE 2, subclause 5(2), line 1 - add "Board Liaison and" before "Coordinator".

PAGE 2, Clause 5 - add the following subclause after subclause (2):

(3) Upon the first elected Council taking office pursuant to this Act, the appointment of the Board Liaison and Coordinator is revoked.

PAGE 2, Clause 6 - delete and substitute the following Clause:

6 (1) The Board Liaison and Coordinator shall apply to the Board for a determination of, and the Board shall determine by August 1, 2024, whether the dissolution of the Town and continuation of the County as the Consolidated Municipality are in the best financial interests of the residents of the Town and the County as a whole.

(2) Where the Board does not determine that the dissolution of the Town and continuation of the County as the Consolidated Municipality are in the best financial interests of the residents of the Town and the County as a whole,

(a) on the Dissolution Date, the Town is not dissolved and the inhabitants of the Town do not become residents of the Consolidated Municipality; and

(b) this Act has no further force or effect.

PAGE 2, Clause 7 - delete and substitute the following Clause:

7 (1) The meetings of the Board Liaison and Coordinator must be held in accordance with the procedures required for a council of a municipality by the *Municipal Government Act*, except as provided by this Act.

(2) The Board Liaison and Coordinator may hold a virtual meeting if the requirements in Section 19A of the *Municipal Government Act*, except procedural policy, are met.

(3) The Board Liaison and Coordinator may permit electronic submissions from or electronic participation in a meeting by a staff member of a municipal government, an expert, a resident or an interested person.

PAGE 2, subclause 8(1) - delete and substitute the following subclause:

(1) The Board Liaison and Coordinator has the powers of the council of a municipality with respect to the gathering, collecting and disseminating of information relating to the dissolution of the Town and continuation of the County as the Consolidated Municipality.

PAGE 2, subclause 8(2), line 1 - delete "Transition Committee" and substitute "Board Liaison and Coordinator".

PAGE 2, subclause 8(3), line 1 - delete "Transition Committee" and substitute "Board Liaison and Coordinator".

PAGE 3, subclause 8(4), line 1 - delete "Transition Committee" and substitute "Board Liaison and Coordinator".

PAGE 3, subclause 8(5), line 2 - delete "Transition Committee" and substitute "Board Liaison and Coordinator".

PAGE 3, Clause 8 - add the following subclause after subclause (5):

(6) For greater certainty, the Board Liaison and Coordinator may exercise the Board Liaison and Coordinator's powers under this Act only in furtherance of the orderly dissolution of the Town and the transition to the Consolidated Municipality.

PAGE 3, subclause 9(1) - delete and substitute the following subclause:

(1) The Board Liaison and Coordinator shall appoint an Interim Chief Administrative Officer.

PAGE 3, subclause 10(1), line 2 - delete “Transition Committee” and substitute “Board Liaison and Coordinator”.

PAGE 4, subclause 11(1), line 1 - delete “Transition Committee” and substitute “Board Liaison and Coordinator”.

PAGE 4, subclause 11(4), line 2 - delete “Transition Committee” and substitute “Board Liaison and Coordinator”.

PAGE 4, subclause 12(1) -

- (a) **line 1** - add “Board Liaison and” before “Coordinator”;
- (b) **lines 1 and 2** - delete “Nova Scotia Utility and Review”.

PAGE 4, subclause 12(2) - delete and substitute the following subclause:

(2) Before the Board Liaison and Coordinator applies to the Board pursuant to subsection (1), the Board Liaison and Coordinator may determine that a Mayor is to be elected at the first election for the Consolidated Municipality on October 19, 2024, notwithstanding the minimum time required by subsection 12(8) of the *Municipal Government Act*.

PAGE 4, subclause 12(3), -

- (a) **lines 1 and 2** - add “Board Liaison and” before “Coordinator”;
- (b) **line 2** - delete “Transition Committee” and substitute “Board Liaison and Coordinator”.

PAGE 5, subclause 14(1), line 2 - add “Board Liaison and” before “Coordinator”.

PAGE 5, subclause 14(2), line 1 - add “Board Liaison and” before “Coordinator”.

PAGE 5, subclause 14(6), lines 2 and 3 - delete “Nova Scotia Utility and Review”.

PAGE 5, subclause 15(1), line 1 - delete “Transition Committee” and substitute “Board Liaison and Coordinator”.
