



**Municipal Affairs
Office of the Minister**

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April 27, 2021

Penny Smith
Warden – Municipality of Shelburne
VIA EMAIL: Warden@municipalityofshelburne.ca

Dear Warden Smith,

Thank you for your email of April 14, 2021, regarding Bill 47: An Act Respecting Accessibility which amends the *Municipal Government Act* and the *Halifax Regional Municipality Charter*.

Bill 47 is based on the responses received during the consultations the department had with municipalities last summer. The intent of the Bill is to enable municipalities, if they so choose, to provide funding incentives to private business for the purposes of accessibility initiatives. The Bill does not create a requirement or obligation for municipalities to fund businesses for this purpose.

As you are aware, municipalities are expected to have their Accessibility Plans completed by April 2022. Bill 47 will ensure that as we move forward with those plans, municipalities are empowered to make unencumbered decisions regarding accessibility initiatives.

Thank you again for taking the time to write to me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Brendan Maguire".

Brendan Maguire
Minister of Municipal Affairs

c. Trudy Payne, CAO, Municipality of Shelburne (Trudy.Payne@municipalityofshelburne.ca)

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