



News Release
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Cities Association Responds to Speech from the Throne

(Fredericton) - The Cities of NB Association applauds the Government of New Brunswick for its recommitment and focus on vibrant and sustainable communities in this week's Throne Speech.

"Vibrant and sustainable communities is the key to continued growth and prosperity for all New Brunswickers," says Cities of NB Chair, Miramichi Mayor Adam Lordon. "That's why we are supporting the government's focus and urging them to continue on a path towards municipal reform that better reflects the New Brunswick of today. This includes key changes to municipal governance and changes to New Brunswick's property tax system", says Lordon.

The Cities Association is committed to working with the Province and the new Minister of Local Government and Local Governance Reform towards a system that recognizes the importance of strong cities and strong municipalities as well as ensuring a level playing field for all New Brunswickers when it comes to paying for access to the infrastructure and services they use.

The Cities of NB Association believes the only way to begin growing New Brunswick again in a post-pandemic world is through the strengthening of our municipalities.

"We need to work together to create economic hubs that can better attract growth and opportunity and better provide more cost effective and efficient services to all New Brunswickers," says Mayor Lordon.

IN addition, the Cities of NB applauds the government for its commitment to fixing the current challenges with Binding Arbitration in New Brunswick by re-introducing Bill 13 ***"An Act to Amend the Industrial Relations Act" to ensure we can address this key affordability challenge associated with the current legislated interest arbitration.***

Finally, the Cities of NB commends the government's commitment to increased environmental sustainability and urges government to include the 8 cities in these plans and initiatives as New Brunswick's cities have been leading the way on environmental sustainability and environmental reform. The 8 Cities also urge the Government of NB to find better ways of working with the government of Canada so that municipalities can access the essential funding available for environmental initiatives that will help reduce our carbon footprints while driving the economies of our cities.

"We are very committed to working with this government in realizing the goals it has set out for this coming session of the legislature," says Lordon. "We are committed to be partners in change as we move forward together in making New Brunswick a strong and more sustainable province for all residents, for generations to come."

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