December 19, 2025

Honourable Chuck Chaisson
Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure
P.O. Box 6000,
Fredericton, NB
E3B 5H1

Dear Minister Chaisson,

This is a request for action on two items of deep concern to our municipality, in regards to Public Safety on roads within Five Rivers.

The first issue is in regards to the replacement bridge over the Coal Branch River, route 470 in Ford's Mills. Fire Chief Mark Perry of the Beersville/Harcourt Fire Rescue recently approached me with this concern. He informed me the replacement of the bridge will now take two years instead of one year, this extremely concerning.

Originally, the plan was to replace the bridge within one year, as well as upgrade the Beersville Backroad to allow passage of the Firetrucks to the opposite side quicker, while the bridge was being built. All this would be for one year only, not two years.

The issue is, this bridge enables emergency vehicles, Fire Rescue and Ambulance NB, quick access to residents, with the bridge out of service response times will be greatly increased for those on the opposite side of the bridge.

You met with MLA Benoit Bourque this past summer, in Ford's Mills, to assess the situation and from my conversation with MLA Bourque, the bridge replacement was to have happened in one year, he wasn't aware of any changes to the plan.

Our request to you Minister Chaisson is to replace this bridge in a timely manner, which was originally slated for one year, to ensure the continued safety of our residents.

The second issue in Five Rivers is we would like to request a study be done at the intersection of routes 116 and 134, in Rexton. Over the years traffic in this area has increased significantly and we need a solution ensure safety.

Thank you, Minister Chaisson, for your attention to these two issues.

Sincerely,

Tina Beers, Mayor
Five Rivers

cc. Benoit Bourque – MLA Beausoleil-Grande Bouctouche-Kent
Honourable Pat Finnigan – Minister of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries
Vincent Roussel – District Engineer, Moncton, DTI