Service New Nouveau Brunswick

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October 8, 2025

Tina Beers
Mayor of Five Rivers
82 Main Street
Rexton, NB E4W 5N4

Your Worship,

Thank you for sharing your views on the one-year freeze on the value for taxation and the implications on local government budgets with me.

New Brunswickers want fair and stable property taxes. That is why our government has committed to overhauling the property tax system with the goal of having a more predictable, transparent, fair and stable system for the 2027 taxation year and beyond.

We implemented this one-year freeze as an interim measure to help mitigate property tax increases due to rising assessments, while providing time for government to engage and work with partners and stakeholders on the reform of the property tax system.

Local governments are a partner in the property tax reform process and are part of an Advisory Panel. The project team will work closely with the Advisory Panel throughout the various phases of reform, including Solutioning and Implementation. We will work together on the solution.

In Spring 2025, after extensive consultations with local governments and associations, the government announced increased funding to local governments through a new fiscal reform funding model. This includes funding to support infrastructure as well as funding to support the revenue generation capacity of local governments. This will result in $138 million in funding to local governments in 2026 – a $63 million increase – and will grow to $188 million by 2030. The province is therefore not considering additional direct funding as a result of the one-year value for taxation freeze.

Thank you for taking the time to bring the views of Five Rivers to the government's attention. The points you have raised are appreciated and will be taken into consideration.

Sincerely,

Hon. Aaron Kennedy
Minster of Local Government
Minister responsible for Service New Brunswick