

MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor Kogon and Members of Amherst Town Council
From: Gregory D. Herrett, CPA, CA - Chief Administrative Officer
Date: February 15, 2019
Subject: **Proposed New Library Funding Model**

Attached is correspondence from the Deputy Minister of the Communities, Culture and Heritage (CCH) providing information with regard to a proposed new funding model that would see Amherst's contributions to the Cumberland Regional Library increase by 41%. There has been, prior to the referenced meeting in Truro on February 4, no consultation of municipal officials in the preparation of this proposal. Emails and calls to the NSFM indicate that they were surprised by this announcement. This is somewhat disconcerting as we understand that CCH had been intended to give municipalities the required 12 month's notice before the end of March and seek legislation in the fall session to implement the proposal.

CFO Shelley Rector, who attended the information session in Truro along with Councillor Jones, will have a discussion paper for Council's consideration prior to the Joint Councils session.

Cumberland Public Libraries Chief Librarian Denise Corey has been invited to a special Joint Councils meeting in Oxford to discuss the proposal.

We continue to work with NSFM and others to understand the proposals and to encourage CCH to slow down and consult municipal officials.