



TURNING THE TIDE

AN INSPIRING COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE

Warden Yvon LeBlanc
district8@munclare.ca

August 28, 2023

BY EMAIL

RE: Support for Integrated Youth Sites in Western Health Zone

To Warden LeBlanc and Council;

A consistent challenge facing youth in rural areas of Nova Scotia is being able to access services. Barriers can include physical access as most communities outside the HRM lack public transportation. But barriers can also be created in the confusion about which programs are for whom and for how long. Additionally, many of the service providers function in silos and competition, separate from one another and often unaware of what is being offered by other organizations.

An Integrated Youth Site (IYS) is meant to help overcome some of those barriers to youth/family access by designing and implementing solutions custom made for the region and population being served. There is a lot of flexibility in the program to allow for innovative approaches to ensuring services reach those who need them. There are going to be two IYS sites per NS Health Zone.

At the moment, many youth service organizations across the province are developing coalitions and defining visions for IYS hubs. In the Western Zone, these organizations are hoping to develop the two sites in close partnerships, to increase the likelihood of a successful proposal and a robust youth serving system.

Recognizing that stable, effective, and accessible services for youth, and their caregivers, serve an important part of your constituencies, we formally request that you assign a municipal contact for our developing coalitions. We may seek a support letter and insights into potential locations in your municipal unit.

We look forward to hearing back from you, please see below for contact information.

Sincerely,

Erika Rolston

Project Lead, Turning the Tide

An Inspiring Communities Initiative

On behalf of the developing coalitions in the Western Health Zone of Nova Scotia

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