

HALIFAX



MIKE SAVAGE

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April 17, 2018

Honourable Minister Amarjeet Sohi
Infrastructure and Communities
Government of Canada
180 Kent Street, Suite 1100
Ottawa, Ontario K1P 0B6

Dear Minister Sohi:

Re: Smart Cities Challenge

I am pleased to endorse the Halifax application to the Smart Cities Challenge in the \$50 million category. Regional Council unanimously supports poverty reduction initiatives, specifically with a focus on food security.

We have a long-standing tradition of partnering with United Way Halifax as well as the Halifax Partnership, our economic development arm, on our objectives to expand our economy and encourage more people to participate fully in their community. We have been working formally with the United Way on the elimination of poverty for the municipality since 2017.

We are also working together with the post secondary education sector, community groups, businesses, and those with firsthand poverty experience in our quest to address one commonality of poverty: food insecurity. Despite strong economic growth too many residents of our community do not have access to affordable, nutritious, or culturally sensitive foods. Parents are often forced to make the choice between food and school supplies for their children. This cannot continue.

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The Halifax vision is one of inclusion and equity. Our success will be measured by people sharing in our growth.

We look forward to the next stage of the challenge. If you or any members of your staff have questions please contact my Office or Jane Fraser, Director of Corporate and Customer Services via email at fraserja@halifax.ca or call 902.717.0443. Thank you for the opportunity to participate.

Kindest regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mike Savage", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mike Savage
Mayor

c: Halifax Regional Council
Jacques Dube, CAO, Halifax Regional Municipality
Sara Napier, President, CEO United Way Halifax
Ron Hanlon, President Halifax Partnership