



Reference No: 2026-M&C-03

April 2, 2026

The Honourable Susan Holt
Chancery Place
P.O. Box 6000
Fredericton, NB E4B 5H1
By Email: Susan.Holt@gnb.ca

Dear Premier Holt:

I am writing on behalf of many Tantramar residents who are concerned about recent reports of a proposed highway toll in Aulac. While the current idea would exempt New Brunswick residents, this doesn't lessen the very real impact such a toll would have on our community and the cross-border connections we rely on every day.

Our region thrives because of the natural flow of people, commerce, and community between neighbouring towns on both sides of the provincial border. Visitors from Nova Scotia support our local shops, restaurants, and service providers, and their presence helps keep our downtown vibrant and our small businesses strong. A toll that applies only to out-of-province travelers risks discouraging these regular trips. Many may simply choose different routes or shift their shopping and activities closer to home.

Even small changes in travel patterns can have big consequences for a border community like ours. Fewer visitors mean less revenue for local businesses, potential job losses, and a gradual weakening of the local economy. For many small businesses—already operating on tight margins—this could be especially challenging.

Using a toll to address broader provincial budget pressures also places an uneven burden on communities situated along the border. It does little to address the underlying financial issues facing the province, while creating new economic pressures for the municipalities most directly affected. Long-term, sustainable solutions require thoughtful planning and collaboration across regions, not measures that unintentionally disadvantage specific communities.

I respectfully urge the provincial government to reconsider this proposal and to engage in meaningful dialogue with our municipality, who would feel its effects most strongly. Tantramar is eager to work together on solutions that support the province's financial goals without compromising the economic health and cross-border vitality that define our community.

Thank you for your attention. I look forward to continued conversation on how we can protect the interests of our municipality while contributing to a stronger future for the province as a whole.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Andrew Black".

Andrew Black
Mayor

cc: MLA Megan Mitton
Jennifer Borne, Chief Administrative Officer
Tantramar Council