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Town & County of Antigonish Provide Funding Boost for Antigonish Community Transit Through the Housing Accelerator Fund

May 23, 2025, Antigonish, NS – A significant investment aimed at enhancing community transit and building complete communities was announced today, as the Town of Antigonish and the Municipality of the County of Antigonish provided a total of \$ 37,800 through their respective federal Housing Accelerator Funds (HAF) to the Antigonish Community Transit Society (ACTS). This strategic investment highlights the essential role transit plays in developing sustainable, connected, and inclusive communities.

The Housing Accelerator Fund is a federal initiative to make it easier, at the municipal level, to build more homes now and in the future. Today's announcement reflects a progressive approach, recognizing that transit is vital to the success and accessibility of new residential developments.

The funding will help ACTS improve its bus service by redesigning routes and updating its branding and marketing, while working closely with partners in the Town, County and province. The goal is to better connect neighborhoods, businesses, schools, and public spaces with reliable transit.

The funding will also support a review of how ACTS operates, including staffing and leadership, to help manage its growing service. Together, these improvements will make the transit system stronger, more reliable, and a transportation option for everyone.

Richie Connors, General Manager of ACTS, emphasized the social benefits for all residents of Town and County. He explained that community transit makes it easier for people to get where they need to go, helping ensure fair access to jobs, education, and healthcare while presenting to Town Council on May 20, 2025, and County Council on April 22, 2025.

" Investing in transit alongside housing, is key to sustaining the close-knit spirit and resilience of our rural communities for generations to come."

-Nicholas MacInnis, Warden, Municipality of the County of Antigonish

" Improving transit means improving quality of life. This funding helps us create connected, complete communities where people can access housing, work, education, and services right here in Antigonish."

-Sean Cameron, Mayor, Town of Antigonish

This announcement underscores the critical intersection between housing development and transit, aligning with broader municipal goals of fostering climate resilience, social equity, and economic vibrancy.

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