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Subject: 2018 National Special Olympic Summer Games

Good Afternoon Mayors and Wardens:

For those of you who attended the Federation of Canadian Municipalities meetings this past weekend I hope you had a chance to revisit with old connections while making new ones. Hopefully Halifax put on a good show and everyone left once again realizing that there is no hospitality like Nova Scotia hospitality.

That statement leads me into the reason for my e-mail this afternoon. As you may/or may not know, Antigonish is hosting the 2018 National Special Olympic Summer Games from July 31st – August 4th which has been greatly supported by both the town and county municipalities. It is the 50th year anniversary and only the second time in Nova Scotia and the first time hosted by someone other than a big city. A big undertaking for sure but to date we have in excess of 720 volunteers who have stepped forward to make sure that these games will be the one that people will talk about for years to come.

Nova Scotia will be represented by 102 athletes along with their coaches and chef de mission, representing all areas of the province from Yarmouth through to Sydney. We have been preparing for this event for about 2 years. Our budget for the event is 2.2 million dollars. We are almost there. Small and large businesses alike throughout Antigonish town and county have been asked over the last couple of weeks to support this great event which will feature many great athletes with intellectual disabilities. Their support has been great with still many to hear from. Here is where you and your Council can help as well by showing support to the athletes from Nova Scotia, and maybe your municipality. Any amount of donation would be greatly appreciated. We are expecting in excess of 5000 visitors to our area for the event with many of them taking extra time to tour our beautiful province either before or after the Games.

As a former mayor of the Town of Antigonish for 8 years I understand the burden that is placed on each and every one of you when it comes to budgets and spending taxpayers' dollars in the most prudent manner possible. I assure you that any donations received will be put to good use during the Games to make sure that all athletes, coaches, officials, family and friends of family leave Antigonish and travel back to their hometown in whatever province with a memory of Nova Scotia that will be everlasting. Our games website is so2018.com.

Any cheques can be made payable to 2018 National Special Olympic Summer Games and can be mailed to me at PO Box 1133, Antigonish, NS B2G 2L5.

Thank you to you and your Council for your consideration of a donation in any amount.

Yours respectfully

Carl Chisholm
Co-Chair 2018 National Special Olympic Summer Games