

March 6, 2025

Mayor Donna Reardon
mayor@saintjohn.ca

Mayor Reardon:

At the request of the Minister of the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure (DTI) the Hon. Chuck Chiasson, I am writing to confirm the commitment of DTI to the Simms Corner redesign.

As you may be aware a team of subject matter experts along with representatives from the Regional Development Corporation (RDC), the City of Saint John, J.D. Irving, Limited and the Port Saint John has been assembled to work through this important project.

This team has been meeting regularly since last fall, sharing information, and ensuring that various perspectives about the current and future uses of Simms Corner are considered – this project needs to meet the needs of the next 50 years of growth in your city and not only respond to the last 50 years of challenges.

Recently, DTI has executed a contract with EXP, a major global engineering and architecture firm. EXP is leading the design work for Simms Corner and is working collaboratively with the team. We are in the planning and pre-design phase where potential options are being explored – when complete, this will mark a major milestone in the revitalization of this important intersection in your community.

As you know, this is only the beginning of a long process and a lot of hard work remains to make this project a reality. This is a significant undertaking, and it will likely represent a large investment by all levels of government. We are committed to doing our part financially and working with you and other stakeholders to leverage existing and future federal funding opportunities. We understand that federal funding has played a key role in other similar projects across Canada.

Although Simms Corner is a complex multi-year and multi-partner project, it is a critical component to supporting and advancing the many Saint John businesses that help power the provincial economy. This is now more critical with the ongoing trade war imposed by President Trump.

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Should you wish to have a formal briefing of council on this project, DTI would be more than happy to provide one.

Sincerely,



Rob Taylor
Deputy Minister

c.c. Hon. Chuck Chiasson, Minister, Transportation and Infrastructure
Hon. David Hickey, Minister, NB Housing Corporation
Hon. John Herron, Minister, Natural Resources
Hon. Aaron Kennedy, Minister, Local Government and Service New Brunswick
Kate Wilcott, MLA
Brent McGovern, Chief Administrative Officer, City of Saint John