



April 10, 2018

Mayor Don Darling and Common Council
City of Saint John
P.O. Box 1971
Saint John, NB E2L 4L1

Mayor Darling and Members of Common Council:

It is my pleasure to support the City of Saint John's application for the Government of Canada's Smart Cities Challenge.

I am very pleased with the community's engagement and dedication displayed during the development of the city's Challenge Statement and application. In particular, I am encouraged by the community's decision to focus on population decline with an emphasis on newcomer attraction and retention as population growth is an important issue currently impacting many New Brunswick communities, including Saint John.

The Department of Post-secondary Education Training and Labour has worked closely with the City of Saint John over the past several years to create, develop and implement strategies aimed to grow our province's population and economy. The Department will continue to work closely with the municipality to build on these efforts moving forward. It is important to continue to work together to provide the provincial and community supports that will best help newcomers and their families settle, integrate and find employment in New Brunswick.

Your success in this endeavor will be very beneficial, not only for the City of Saint John, but for the Province as a whole as we continue to support our mutual population growth goals.

The Department is supportive of the city's application to the Smart Cities Challenge and wish you all the best as you move forward in the application process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "m Dupuis".

Jean-Marc Dupuis
Deputy Minister

