



# Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board

## Notice of **PUBLIC HEARING**

**The Town of Amherst** has made an **Application** to the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board on behalf of its **Water Utility** to amend its Schedule of Rates and Charges for Water and Water Service and its Schedule of Rules and Regulations. Specific details of the Application are set out below.

**Commencing:**           **Tuesday, February 16, 2010**  
                                  **11:00 a.m.**

**Place:**                   **Council Chambers**  
                                  **Town of Amherst**  
                                  **5 Ratchford Street**  
                                  **Amherst, NS**

**ALL PERSONS** are entitled to attend the hearing.

**ANYONE WISHING TO MAKE COMMENTS** may do so at the hearing or by forwarding a letter to the Clerk of the Board at Box 1692, Unit "M", Halifax, N.S. B3J 3S3, or email at: board@gov.ns.ca or by calling the Clerk at (902) 424-4448, or fax (902) 424-3919.

**ANYONE WISHING TO HAVE FORMAL STANDING** to present evidence or cross-examine witnesses should file notice of such intention with the Board by **Friday, January 15, 2010** and a copy of their written evidence by no later than **Wednesday, January 20, 2010**.

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

- For 2010/11 the proposed increase for unmetered service, with a current quarterly bill of \$54.01, will increase to \$57.49 (6.4%); \$61.25 (6.5%) in 2011/12; and \$64.47 (5.3%) in 2012/13.
- For a 5/8" meter, residential customer, the average current quarterly water bill is \$51.62 and it is proposed to increase to \$54.57 (5.7%) in 2010/11; \$57.56 (5.5%) in 2011/12; and \$60.03 (4.3%) in 2012/13.
- For a 3/4" meter customer, the average current quarterly water bill is \$108.42 and it is proposed to increase to \$122.80 (13.3%) in 2010/11; \$138.30 (12.6%) in 2011/12; and \$152.73 (10.4%) in 2012/13.
- The Utility is also requesting increases for other metered customers ranging from 7.7% to 11.4% in 2010/11; 7.1% to 10.7% in 2011/12; and 5.7% to 8.8% in 2012/13.

- The current annual fire protection charge is \$434,472. This application proposes that the Fire Protection Charge will increase in 2010/11 to \$485,744 (an 11.8% increase); \$513,893 in 2011/12 (a 5.8% increase); and \$554,864 in 2012/13 (an 8.0% increase). These amounts are to be paid by the Town of Amherst and the Municipality of the County of Cumberland, in proportion to the number of hydrants serving each municipal unit.

A copy of the application may be viewed at the offices of the Board, Summit Place, 1601 Lower Water Street, 3rd Floor, Halifax, NS, and at the office of the Town of Amherst, 5 Ratchford Street, Amherst, NS.