

BILL NO. 201

(as passed)



*2nd Session, 63rd General Assembly
Nova Scotia
68 Elizabeth II, 2019*

Government Bill

Municipal Government Act (amended) and Halifax Regional Municipality Charter (amended)

CHAPTER 36 OF THE ACTS OF 2019

The Honourable Chuck Porter
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

[First Reading](#): October 16, 2019 (LINK TO BILL AS INTRODUCED)

Second Reading: October 17, 2019

[Third Reading](#): October 29, 2019

Royal Assent: October 30, 2019

**An Act to Amend Chapter 18
of the Acts of 1998,
the Municipal Government Act,
and Chapter 39 of the Acts of 2008,
the Halifax Regional Municipality Charter,
Respecting On-site Sewage Disposal Equipment**

Be it enacted by the Governor and Assembly as follows:

MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT ACT

1 Subsection 81A(1) of Chapter 18, as enacted by Chapter 25 of the Acts of 2016 and amended by Chapter 19 of the Acts of 2019, is further amended by

- (a) striking out "and" immediately after clause (b);
- (b) striking out the period at the end of clause (c) and substituting "; and"; and
- (c) adding immediately after clause (c) the following clause:
 - (d) on-site sewage disposal equipment.

HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY CHARTER

2 Subsection 104A(1) of Chapter 39, as enacted by Chapter 25 of the Acts of 2016 and amended by Chapter 9 of the Acts of 2018 and Chapter 19 of the Acts of 2019, is further amended by

- (a) striking out "and" immediately after clause (c);
- (b) striking out the period at the end of clause (d) and substituting "; and"; and
- (c) adding immediately after clause (d) the following clause:
 - (e) on-site sewage disposal equipment.

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More Information

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Financing available soon to Nova Scotians to improve septic systems

The Chronicle Herald

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A septic tank is shown in this file photo. - Contributed

HALIFAX, N.S. — Municipalities will soon be able to offer financing to Nova Scotians to improve septic systems.

Amendments to the Municipal Government Act and the Halifax Regional Municipality Charter introduced Wednesday will allow all municipalities to offer loans to homeowners in their area who need to install or replace their septic systems. Residents will be able to repay their loan through their property taxes.

"We know installing new septic systems or repairing broken ones can be very costly and many Nova Scotians cannot afford to pay upfront," Chuck Porter, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, said in a release. "By making these changes we are helping to protect our environment and the health of

our residents by preventing raw sewage from going into our lakes, rivers and the ground and protect properties from sewage backups and contaminated well water.”

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(7) Notwithstanding the *Public Utilities Act* and for greater certainty, any by-law made pursuant to this Section and any charge imposed or fixed pursuant to this Section do not require approval by the Board. 1998, c. 18, s. 81; 2001, c. 35, s. 9; 2004, c. 7, s. 8; 2006, c. 40, s. 4; O.I.C. 2007-553

By-law regarding equipment charges

81A (1) The council may make by-laws imposing, fixing and providing methods of enforcing payment of charges for the financing and installation of any of the following on private property with the consent of the property owner:

- (a) energy-efficiency equipment;
- (b) renewable energy equipment; and
- (c) equipment for the supply, use, storage or conservation of water.

(2) A by-law passed pursuant to this Section may provide

- (a) that the charges fixed by, or determined pursuant to, the by-law may be chargeable according to a plan or method set out in the by-law;
- (b) that the charges may be different for different classes of development and may be different in different areas of the municipality;
- (c) when the charges are payable;
- (d) that the charges are first liens on the real property and may be collected in the same manner as other taxes;
- (e) that the charges be collectable in the same manner as taxes and, at the option of the treasurer, be collectable at the same time, and by the same proceedings, as taxes;
- (f) a means of determining when the lien becomes effective or when the charges become due and payable;
- (g) that the amount payable may, at the option of the owner of the property, be paid in the number of annual instalments set out in the by-law and, upon default of payment of any instalment, the balance becomes due and payable; and
- (h) that interest is payable annually on the entire amount outstanding and unpaid, whether or not the owner has elected to pay by instalments, at a rate and beginning on a date fixed by the by-law. 2012, c. 27, s. 2; 2016, c. 25, s. 2; 2019, c. 19, s. 8.

Interest payable

82 Interest is payable on unpaid taxes and charges levied pursuant to this Part at the same rate as for other outstanding taxes. 1998, c. 18, s. 82.