



February 2, 2022

c/o clerks@halifax.ca

Dear Mayor and Council,

On behalf of the nine HRM Business Improvement Districts (BIDs), representing roughly half of HRM's commercial assessment, we are writing to express concern regarding Council's proposal to increase the commercial tax rate in 2022-23.

The fourth wave has been the hardest for many businesses. After almost two years of closures and taking on more debt than ever before, coupled with labour shortages and increased costs, many businesses are struggling to pay the bills. They need the support of government right now, not a tax increase.

Halifax has seen amazing growth and development in the past number of years. We are excited for the future of our city; however, future growth shouldn't be at a cost of the closure of our small businesses. We urge you not to increase the commercial property tax rate in 2022-23.

Respectfully submitted,

The BIDs of:
Downtown Dartmouth
Downtown Halifax
North End Halifax
Porter's Lake
Quinpool Road
Sackville
Spring Garden Area
Spryfield
Village on Main