

MAINE SERVICE CENTERS COALITION

60 Community Drive • Augusta, Maine 04330 • (207) 623-8428

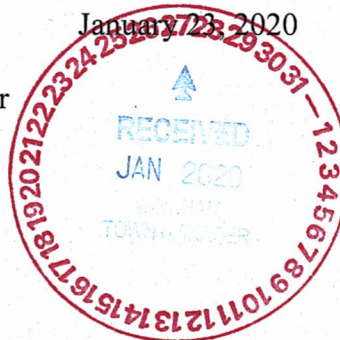
Christine Landes, Chair
City of Gardiner
(207) 582-4800

Catherine Conlow, Vice Chair
City of Bangor
(207) 992-4204

Scott Morelli, Secretary
City of South Portland
(207) 767-3201

James Bennett, Treasurer
City of Biddeford
(207) 284-9313

Mr. Barry Tibbetts, Interim Town Manager
Town of Windham
8 School Rd
Windham, ME 04062-4899



Dear Barry:

As the second session of the 129th Maine Legislature begins I am taking the opportunity to extend an invitation and ask that you consider rejoining the Maine Service Centers Coalition and provide dues support for this organization and the many policy initiatives and positions we advocated for on your behalf.

Your municipal revenue received significant and long overdue increases in the 2019 Maine Legislative Session. Our efforts along with MMA and other interested parties resulted in the increase in Revenue Sharing from the original \$74 million in 2019 to approximately \$105 million in FY 2020 and \$143 million in FY 2021. The budget enacted last June also included a fully State funded expansion of the homestead exemption from \$20,000 to \$25,000. Obviously the new Administration and bipartisan majorities in the Maine Senate and House deserve part of the credit for this dramatic turnaround in Maine's budget priorities and for their support in numerous other areas including local aid to education funding, county jails, workers compensation reform and the critical need for the \$100 million transportation bond package approved by Maine's voters in November.

Your membership and support are now even more important to our continued success. It will take a collective effort to maintain and continue the restoration and protection of municipal revenue as the new Administration and Legislature continue to repair the damage from the recent twelve years of band aids in biennial budgets. Recent revenue figures show that Maine ended the recent fiscal year with a budget surplus of \$168 million. Unfortunately, this legislative session began with more than \$250 million in carried over bond proposals and worthy state agency and municipal program needs.

Full funding of Revenue Sharing is part of the base budget that the next legislature will begin 2021 with. In addition to protecting last session's gains our major priorities include addressing the need for permanent solutions to county jail funding, local share of marijuana revenue to compensate municipalities for administrative costs, more responsive Tax Increment Finance rules and regulations and some overdue changes to the General Assistance burden for many of Maine's Service Centers.

The need for your participation in the Maine Service Centers Coalition's advocacy efforts has never been greater. We will continue to work with a group of organizations to restore full

funding of all revenue to municipalities. Our strategy includes holding every Maine legislator accountable for every vote that impacts municipal revenue or impairs our ability to provide property tax relief to our citizens. However, as always we will need your help support and input.

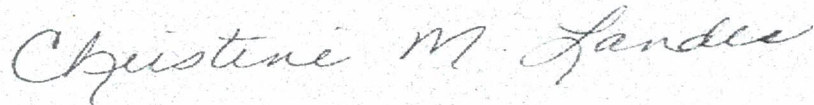
Given the obvious advantage of experienced political advice and relationships, the Maine Service Centers Coalition leadership and staff will again rely upon Richard Trahey and his firm of Maine Governmental Relations for professional lobbying staff support. I believe that this relationship with Richard has benefited the Coalition greatly in providing us access to policy makers, sound policy advice and effective advocacy services.

We are enclosing the MSCC Membership Dues invoice for 2020 and hope you will respond favorably. Membership dues are set at twelve cents per capita based on your community's population (established by the latest State Revenue Sharing data available) with a minimum dues payment of \$500 per community. Also enclosed please find an informational form that we ask you to update and return to us. Please be sure to note to whom we should rely upon as the principal REPRESENTATIVE and ALTERNATE for your community.

In addition, please feel free to contact me directly at the Gardiner City Hall (207.582.4200) or by e-mail at clandes@gardinermaine.com.

Once again, thank you for your municipality's past support. Together we can make 2020 a productive year for the Maine Service Centers Coalition.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Christine M. Landes".

Christine Landes
Chairperson
Maine Service Centers Coalition

Enclosures (3)

MAINE SERVICE CENTER COALITION

2020 Resolution for Membership and Appointment of Voting Delegate Representative and Alternate

BE IT RESOLVED that the _____
(City/Town Council or Board of Selectmen)

hereby authorizes membership in the Maine Service Center Coalition and designates:

_____,
(name) (position in municipality)

to be the appointed REPRESENTATIVE for the Maine Service Centers Coalition and is therefore authorized to vote at the Maine Service Centers Coalition business meetings.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the designated ALTERNATE is:

_____,
(name) (position in municipality)

Dated

Attested To By:

Please return this Resolution as soon as possible to:

Maine Service Centers Coalition
c/o Theresa Chavarie, Manager, Member Relations
Maine Municipal Association
60 Community Drive
Augusta, Maine 04330
E-mail: tchavarie@memun.org

MAINE SERVICE CENTERS COALITION

VOTING DELEGATES - 2020

Membership Information Sheet

MSCC REPRESENTATIVE	MSCC ALTERNATE
NAME:	NAME:
TITLE:	TITLE:
MUNICIPALITY:	MUNICIPALITY:
MAILING ADDRESS:	MAILING ADDRESS:
CITY/ST/ZIP:	CITY/ST/ZIP:
TOWN OFFICE PHONE:	TOWN OFFICE PHONE:
WORK PHONE:	WORK PHONE:
HOME PHONE:	HOME PHONE:
FAX PHONE:	FAX PHONE:
E-MAIL ADDRESS:	E-MAIL ADDRESS:

RETURN TO:

Maine Service Centers Coalition

c/o Theresa Chavarie, Manager of Member Relations
Maine Municipal Association
60 Community Drive
Augusta, Maine 04330
FAX: (207) 626-3358
E-MAIL: tchavarie@memun.org