



Friday March 6, 2026

In response to the announcement made by the Ministry of Health and Wellness today we offer the following statement:

We founded St. Martha's Hospital in 1906, and believe it is a treasure and has been good for this community and surrounding areas for the past 120 years.

In 1996 the hospital was transferred to the Government and at that time people from the town and county came to the Sisters of St. Martha and asked us to help oversee that the *Mission* would continue. With due diligence we found a way for this to happen and that year a **Mission Assurance Agreement** was signed between the Sisters of St. Martha, St. Martha's Regional Hospital, the Health Authority of the Day and the Government through the Minister of Health. This has been in place for close to 30 years.

Over a year ago we informed all parties that we did not see ourselves being able to continue being the sponsor after September 30, 2026, when the agreement would need to be renewed. We committed to finding another suitable sponsor to take on our part of the agreement. We feel that we found an organization that would be a good fit to become sponsor and continue the legacy of the Sisters of St. Martha.

On Friday March 6, 2026 the Ministry of Health and Wellness announced that they will not move forward with another sponsor and will therefore not be renewing the Mission Assurance Agreement.

We are proud of the contributions of St. Martha Regional Hospital to the local and broader community over these 120 years, and particularly the last 30 years. Members of the wider community, physicians and hospital personnel have become members of the *Mission Assurance Council* and given of their time and wisdom for which the Congregation, and we suggest, the Antigonish Community are grateful.

We, Sisters of St. Martha are saddened by this news and are hopeful that the DNA of the *Mission* will live on through this new structure.

Sr. Brendalee Boisvert  
Congregation Leader, Sisters of St. Martha  
March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2026