

**Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee  
November 14, 2011**

**TO:** Chair and Members of Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee

**SUBMITTED BY:**   
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Phillip Townsend, Director, Planning and Infrastructure

**DATE:** October 17, 2011

**SUBJECT:** **Province of Nova Scotia: Draft Coastal Strategy**  
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**ORIGIN**

- Province of Nova Scotia, October 13, 2011: Call for Feedback, Draft Coastal Strategy
- Request from Committee Member prior to Agenda Review

**RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee recommend to Regional Council that: Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM) support the Province of Nova Scotia Draft Coastal Strategy as prepared.

## **BACKGROUND**

Following the release of the Coastal Management Framework in 2008, and the State of Nova Scotia's Coast Report in December 2009, the Provincial Oceans Network (PON), an umbrella group representing fifteen departments and agencies, conducted extensive research and public consultations about coastal management in Nova Scotia.

A draft Coastal Strategy (<http://www.gov.ns.ca/coast/>) has been completed and is now being circulated for feedback.

## **DISCUSSION**

The strategy focuses on seven key issues:

1. Coastal Development
2. Working waterfronts
3. Public coastal access
4. Sea level rise and storm events
5. Coastal ecosystems and habitats
6. Coastal water quality
7. Governance

The objectives and actions complement and integrate well with the HRM Municipal Planning Strategy.

HRM staff recommends that this strategy is a sound piece to facilitate an integrated planning and management approach to coastal issues.

## **BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

This Strategy has no implications on the 2011/2012 Budgets. Further, the strategy offers no specific implications to future budgets. However, sound planning and coastal management over time will reduce long term municipal service delivery and infrastructure costs.

## **FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES / BUSINESS PLAN**

This report complies with the Municipality's Multi-Year Financial Strategy, the approved Operating, Project and Reserve budgets, policies and procedures regarding withdrawals from the utilization of Project and Operating reserves, as well as any relevant legislation.

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

There was a substantial public consultation performed by the Province of Nova Scotia on this strategy.

**ALTERNATIVES**

None recommended. However, should Committee members or Regional Council have comments or direction related to the submission, staff will incorporate them into the HRM response.

**ATTACHMENTS**

None

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A copy of this report can be obtained online at <http://www.halifax.ca/commcoun/cc.html> then choose the appropriate Community Council and meeting date, or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210, or Fax 490-4208.

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