

Soil & Water Conservation Society of Metro Halifax (SWCSMH)

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Ref.: ccc_2005November18 (1-page only for brevity; but further clarification can be provided in person at your meetings, on invitation)

To: **Chair and Members, Chebucto Community Council (CCC), HRM**

From: S. M. Mandaville Post-Grad Dip. Professional Lake Manage.
Chairman and Scientific Director

Date: November 18, 2005

Subject: **Request for the mandatory requirement of report(s) by a 'qualified limnologist' in projects relating to freshwaters (i.e., lakes or rivers) conducted directly/indirectly for the HRM, and/or by proponents of significant developments prior to approvals!**

As common sense professionalism, our Province's Department of the Environment enacted a superb policy titled, "Storm Drainage Works Approval Policy" which came into effect on December 10, 2002.

It clearly states in Clause V.2, a possible requirement for approval as, **"report(s) prepared by a qualified limnologist where lakes are located at outfalls or downstream of outfalls"**.

That has not been adhered to in almost all costly studies funded by (or for) the HRM! Even before that policy came into effect, pure common sense would have dictated such professionalism!

Further, every study should clearly indicate names of the scientists and of other professionals who were involved (not just the corporate names). They should also include their professional designations as well as any 'acclaim' or 'awards' received from independent scientific authorities or other agencies in the discipline of limnology and lake management. These could form a 1- or 2-page appendix!

The above requirement should also be binding upon any 'in-house studies' conducted by the staff of HRM, or by its partnering academia, or by any of its Government partners, at any level!

This way, the varied assaults on freshwater biodiversity and cumulative effects on indicator organisms may be greatly reduced!

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