



## Miller Waste Systems Inc.

80 Gloria McCluskey Avenue  
Burnside Industrial Park  
Dartmouth, NS B3B 2A4

Tel: (902) 468-3161  
Fax: (902) 468-3262

December 3, 2013,

Chrystiane Mallaley  
NATIONAL Public Relations  
Founders Square  
1701 Hollis Street, Suite L101  
Halifax, Nova Scotia  
B3J 3M8

Re: Input on Solid Waste Strategy Review

Ms. Mallaley,

Jeff Traver on behalf of Miller Waste Systems Inc. has attended a number of stakeholder sessions regarding the Solid Waste Strategy review. Included in this letter are some considerations that we would like to bring forth to the debate.

Miller Waste has been involved in the waste management business commencing in 1961 and in the Halifax market place since 1998. The inception of the newly minted waste management system, commenced much earlier to avoid the missteps of the Sackville landfill. We are a diversion based company, and specialize in finding our customers cost effective waste diversion solutions.

We have witnessed a change over the past 50 years in the way waste is perceived and have also seen a dramatic change in the way it is processed, in many cases turning a former waste into valuable resources. However, inevitably, some of what is left in the waste stream is simply not practical or cost effective to recycle or compost and invariably requires to be landfilled. The province in 2006 stipulated that all landfills operating in the province operate as a second generation landfill – this was to ensure that landfills such as Sackville were not repeated.

It is Miller's request that council objectively make decisions that are based on facts, with the ultimate objective of balancing the achievement of maximum diversion and cost efficiency. With respect to flow control, there are many pros and cons and strategy depends on HRM's goals. Understanding those goals will determine the direction that council travels. If the goal of HRM is to maximize diversion from landfill and ensure that long term sustainable solutions are in place to process and divert materials such as organics from landfill then flow control is critical to success.

It has been shown in numerous reports that HRM leads the nation in waste diversion. This is evident in the waste when examined within various municipalities, Greater Toronto Area is ~50% heavier, Moncton is 16% as compared to businesses within HRM. One of the reasons the waste component is heavier in these areas is because people are not forced to recycle and recyclable or compostable materials are not rejected at the receiving landfill, as they are in HRM. By limiting flow control, there is

no guarantee that other receiving facilities will be as diligent as staff at HRM's facility, meaning there will be little incentive to business to separate properly.

With the above in mind, and given that the Province has set out new provincial targets for kg/hh, it is our opinion that these goals would be challenging to achieve without flow control of divertible materials such as Organics.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding the above information, do not hesitate to contact me at your earliest convenience.

Regards,

**Original Signed**

Jeff Traver, District Manager  
Miller Waste Systems Inc.

Cc: Denis Goulet, Vice President, Miller Waste Systems Inc.