



P.O. Box 1749  
Halifax, Nova Scotia  
B3J 3A5 Canada

## Item No. 11.4.2

| Request for Council's Consideration  |  |
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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Included on Agenda</b><br>(Submitted to Municipal Clerk's Office by Noon Thursday)  | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Added Item</b><br>(Submitted to Municipal Clerk's Office by Noon Monday) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Request from the Floor</b>   |  |
| <b>Date of Council Meeting:</b> December 2, 2014   |  |
| <b>Subject:</b> Support for <i>Engage Nova Scotia</i>  |  |
| <b>Motion for Council to Consider:</b><br><br>That Halifax Regional Council request a staff report to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) Evaluate <i>Engage Nova Scotia's</i> request for a funding contribution; and,</li><li>b) Investigate opportunities to support the general direction of <i>Engage Nova Scotia</i>, including participation in upcoming forums, roundtables and conferences; and</li><li>c) Report to the Audit &amp; Finance Standing Committee with recommendations during its January 2015 meeting.</li></ul> |  |
| <b>Reason:</b><br><br>Post-Ivany Commission, Halifax is uniquely positioned to lead the province's economic recovery. Working with <i>Engage Nova Scotia</i> may present opportunities to tap into leadership and ideas that will advance a vibrant, inclusive and resilient Nova Scotia.  |  |
| <b>Outcome Sought:</b><br><br>A staff report that evaluates <i>Engage Nova Scotia's</i> request for funding, and outlines opportunities to support <i>Engage Nova Scotia's</i> general direction.  |  |
| Councillor Stephen Adams<br><br>Original Signed  | District 11  |



November 21, 2014

Mayor Mike Savage  
Halifax Regional Municipality  
P.O. Box 1749  
Halifax, Nova Scotia  
B3J 3A5

Dear Mayor Savage:

We appreciated the opportunity for Danny Graham and Nancy Watson to present to you and councilors at a Lunch and Learn on September 23, 2014.

You will recall that they discussed with councilors how to follow up with some ideas about how Engage Nova Scotia and the City of Halifax can continue to work together.

Our relationship with all sectors of society and all levels of government is integral to our success. In particular, we believe municipalities are uniquely positioned to act as the focal points for a new culture of civic engagement and cross-sectoral collaboration across Nova Scotia. To that end, we have been working with a variety of municipalities to support efforts for their communities to be more self-reliant in the wake of the Ivany Report findings.

We have also worked directly with the UNSM, providing training to councilors and senior staff on public engagement. In addition, we have presented to both the executive of the UNSM and the full membership about the work of Engage Nova Scotia.

We are leading a pan-provincial effort to engage Nova Scotians on the economic, population and attitude challenges identified in the Ivany Report. As the economic and social lynchpin of Nova Scotia, Halifax carries a particularly heavy weight of expectations around next steps. Working together, we believe we can make greater gains than working alone.

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By supporting our work, Halifax would tangibly demonstrate that all parts of Nova Scotia and all levels of government need to pull together to address our shared challenges and opportunities. In addition to the benefits of forging a mutually supportive ongoing relationship, there are a number of specific projects on our horizon that would benefit from Halifax's active involvement and leadership, e.g.:

- This spring, we are hosting a major post-Ivany symposium that will bring together representatives of the public, private, academic and social sectors to accelerate action in the areas of economy, attitude and wellbeing.
- Also this spring, we will be working with Canadians for a New Partnership and aboriginal leaders in Nova Scotia to host a forum aimed at initiating a new relationship between aboriginal and other Nova Scotians.
- We are working closely with the Greater Halifax Partnership to support their groundbreaking and complementary work on the Halifax Index and the ecosystem framework.
- We are collaborating with the Province of Nova Scotia and the Canadian Index of Wellbeing, amongst others, to institute a Nova Scotia Index of Wellbeing that can guide and measure of shared efforts to build a more vibrant, inclusive and resilient province.

To date, we have secured commitments of financial support from individual citizens, companies, a foundation, the Province of Nova Scotia and other municipal units. From our perspective, bringing Halifax on board as one of our early anchor partners represents a win-win situation. We are requesting \$50,000 contribution to our work in year one, with the possibility of renewing this commitment in subsequent years.

We look forward to working with your staff to share more details of our work in advance of a formal request going to Council.

Sincerely,

Original Signed

Ramona Lumpkin, CM, PhD  
Chair