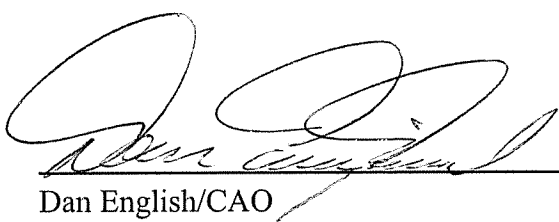




PO Box 1749  
Halifax, Nova Scotia  
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**Halifax Regional Council**  
**April 11, 2006**

**TO:** Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

**SUBMITTED BY:**   
Dan English/CAO

**DATE:** April 5, 2006

**SUBJECT:** MRIF Process Update

**INFORMATION REPORT**

**ORIGIN**

March 28, 2006 Council Report, MRIF - Response to Requests for Support

## **BACKGROUND**

- February 23, 2006 - HRM Council approved list of projects for MRIF application was sent to the MRIF Secretariat.
- March 28, 2006 - Council motion approved that Halifax Regional Council will respond to any requests for support to MRIF applications indicating that: Halifax Regional Council will not consider, or make a formal resolution, indicating support for any MRIF application other than those already approved by Council.
- Applications for first round MRIF application were submitted to the Secretariat for the following 3 projects: North Preston Water and Sewer, Potable Water and Lively Water and Sewer (identified as an application for the strategic category) as the focus of the first round of applications was for “green” infrastructure.
- Applications are being prepared by project staff for the remaining Council approved projects.

## **DISCUSSION**

To ensure all Members are of the same understanding, the MRIF Application Process as staff understands it is as follows:

- First intake of applications is for “green” infrastructure.
- Municipalities are required to prioritize projects in order of importance.
- All applications for MRIF require a resolution of municipal council which identify the project as a top infrastructure priority.
- If the application is from a non-governmental organization a resolution of the local municipal council supporting that application will be required.
- 20% of the Fund is directed to a strategic category.
- Applications intended to be considered under strategic category of the program should be identified as such.

The strategic component is a federal/provincial fund that does not require any third party funding participation, although it is desired. Strategic initiatives are identified from applications received. Under the strategic category, projects of regional significance, or critical priority must be considered and be supported as priorities by the Government of Canada and the Province of Nova Scotia. To date, there is no indication that the federal or provincial government will support a project without HRM’s endorsement. However, this does not preclude that from happening in the future.

## **BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

None - information only.

**FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES / BUSINESS PLAN**

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

**ALTERNATIVES**

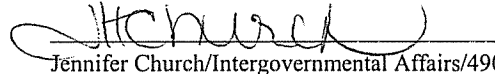
None - Information only.

**ATTACHMENTS**

None.

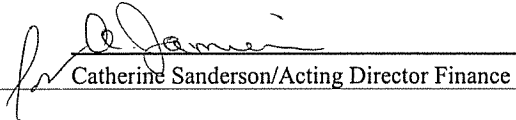
A copy of this report can be obtained online at <http://www.halifax.ca/council/agendasc/cagenda.html> then choose the appropriate meeting date, or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210, or Fax 490-4208.

Report Prepared by :



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Financial Review :



Catherine Sanderson/Acting Director Finance