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Information item No.3
Environment & Sustainability Standing Committee
November 23, 2015

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Chair and Members of the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee
CC: Phoebe Rai, Legislative Assistant
FROM: Councillor Bill Karsten
DATE: November 10, 2015
SUBJECT: **Federation of Canadian Municipalities Update**

- Elected to serve as Chair of the Standing Committee on Social-Economic Development at the FCM Board meeting held in Fredericton in September, 2015
- No longer serving as Vice-Chair of the Standing Committee on Environmental Issues and Sustainable Development.
- Regional Council passed a motion October 27, 2015 to support NZWC food waste reduction proposal to be considered at an upcoming FCM meeting (see attached letter from Mayor Savage to FCM President Mr. Raymond Louie)

HALIFAX



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November 2, 2015

Mr. Raymond Louie
President, Federation of Canadian Municipalities
24 Clarence Street
Ottawa, ON K1N 5P3

Dear Mr. Louie,

Raymond

On October 27, 2015, Halifax Regional Council approved a motion supporting the National Zero Waste Council's (NZWC) food waste reduction proposal that would implement tax incentives for food producers and suppliers who donate their unsold, edible food to charitable organizations.

It has been estimated that in Canada up to 40% of food produced is lost along the value chain and ends up in landfills; this is the equivalent of 300 million meals every year. Meanwhile, an estimated one in eight Canadians struggle to put food on the table.

A federal tax incentive is an excellent approach to not only reduce unnecessary food waste, but also to decrease disposal costs to municipalities, reduce the environmental impact of food waste, and help to alleviate hunger and poverty in our communities.

Halifax Regional Council supports the NZWC's food waste reduction proposal, and the call to action on the federal government to introduce a food waste reduction tax incentive policy. We are putting forward the attached resolution in the hopes that it be adopted by the FCM at an upcoming Board of Directors meeting or at the next Annual General Meeting.

Kindest regards,

ORIGINAL
SIGNED

Mike Savage
Mayor of Halifax