



(Solomon's Seal of wisdom on a marble slab from a Byzantine church, Khirbet Sufa, Northern Negev, Israel)

Soil & Water Conservation Society of Metro Halifax (SWCSMH)

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Ref.: waterqualityoversight2006may17 (2 pages only) T.

To: Mayor Peter Kelly and the Regional Council as well as Chair & Members of all the six Community Councils, HRM

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

Date: May 17, 2006

Subject: **HRM oversight on chemical and biological wholistic water quality is long overdue!**

CHEBUCTO
COMMUNITY
COUNCIL

We herewith plead that Your Worship, Regional Council, and all the six Community Councils take pragmatic leadership in PROFESSIONAL LAKE/RIVER management. This could be done in the following ways:

- (a) Appoint an outside investigator (a retired Supreme Court Judge, for example) to receive `written briefs' and verbal submissions from the public-at-large similar to the extremely well organized Justice Kreever inquiry into the tainted blood scandal; if you recall, prior to that there were the typical perpetual massive denials by the so called `in-crowd';

and/or

- (b) One of the Councillors could introduce a motion at Regional Council to set up an Oversight Committee composed only of elected Councillors to oversee all water quality issues on a wholistic level. Such a committee should not have any political appointees for a multitude of reasons!

The Regional Planning staff/Committee has never done that either although my team suggested that in atleast two (2) very brief one-page email submissions when Ms. Anne Muecke MCIP and Ms. Carol Macomber MCIP were General Managers of the Regional Planning team. Neither of them responded to our suggestions, alas!

I did not have the time to mention the aforesaid 'archival history' during the Regional Plan public hearings yesterday since I wanted to emphasize what has been published in extensive international scientific as well as engineering journals on state-of-the-art **total stormwater treatment systems** which may be capable, in perpetuity, of treatment of a myriad of 'stressors' that are inevitable after an area is developed (this is not about construction-related siltation which the Councils discussed several times during last few years).

My time yesterday at Regional Council was also taken up since I wanted to mention the horrendous number of not only emails but also phone calls that I received from select professional staff of HRM as well as from its regular well paid consulting firms in addition to from numerous Citizens of HRM and their associates in local academia!

The costly \$120,000 WRMS carried out by Dillon, Inc. did not address the wholistic aspects of stormwater treatment. This was inspite of the fact that both Dillon, Inc., as well as the HRM Committee Chair at that time, John Sheppard PEng, received extensive scientific as well as engineering documents from my team.

My team also has some well published engineering professors in Canada as well as the USA as members/associates! Hence, we are all not exclusively limnologists, marine biologists, and microbiologists!

