

Department of Environment & Labour

PO Box 697 Halifax, Nova Scotia Oer File Number: 17 2004

HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

Office of the Minister

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Mayor, Councillors, CAO

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Mayor Peter J. Kelly Halifax Regional Municipality 1841 Argyle Street P. O. Box 1749 Halifax, NS B3J 3A5

Dear Mayor Kelly:

Thank you for your correspondence dated May 6, 2004.

The Department of Environment and Labour promotes the use of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) methods to balance economic, environmental, and human health issues in pest management decision-making. IPM includes the monitoring of the pest and may include physical control, biological control, cultural control or chemical control which may include the use of federally registered pest control products.

Staff from the Environmental Innovations Branch(EIB) have met with your Environmental Management Services(EMS) group on pesticide related issues. We will indeed be able to share pesticide sales and use data as collected by this Department. Staff will continue their discussions with your EMS group to determine specific needs and then make this data available.

You will also be pleased to know that all pesticide related educational material produced by this Department is copyright free, however permission is required for the use of the material. Staff from EIB are available to discuss specific educational projects that are of mutual interest.

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In closing, I appreciate you taking the time to make me aware of the concerns of the Halifax Regional Council. I would ask that you direct staff to contact Donald Burns at (902) 424-3170 to further discuss these issues.

Sincerely yours,

Kerry Morash Minister

cc: Angus MacIssac, Minister of Health Rodney MacDonald, Health Promotions Donald Burns, Environment & Labour

May 6, 2004

The Honourable Kerry Morash Minister of Environment and Labour P. O. Box 2107 Halifax, NS B3J 3B7

Dear Minister Morash:

Halifax Regional Municipality's corporate priorities include a healthy, sustainable, vibrant community. Strong, healthy, sustainable communities are of paramount importance to Nova Scotia municipalities and help provide for a strong and healthy Province overall. This includes at source pollution prevention and pesticide use reduction. Related efforts at the Provincial level would further enhance community level human health and environmental protection.

At a recent meeting of Halifax Regional Council, it was requested that I write to you requesting

"that where possible, pesticide use information collected through the provincial pesticide applicators certification programs be made available to the Halifax Regional Municipality to help better determine trends and overall pesticide use."

Council also requested your Department "look at enhancing its public education and awareness efforts towards more sustainable landscape maintenance practices including working more closely with the landscape industry, community, and the Halifax Regional Municipality".

In addition, Council asked that your Department consider financial contributions towards the costs of public education and awareness campaigns on sustainable alternatives to pesticides."

We believe opportunities exist for the Provincial Ministries to enhance their working relationships with the

Halifax Regional Municipality in areas such as this and we welcome the opportunity for direct dialogue with our staff.

On behalf of Halifax Regional Council, we appreciate a positive response to our requests.

Respectfully, I remain

Peter J. Kelly Mayor

cc: Halifax Regional Council