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Halifax Regional Council  
December 14, 2004

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

**SUBMITTED BY:**

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mike Labrecque".

Mike Labrecque, Director Real Property & Asset Management

**SUBMITTED BY:**

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mike Eddy".

Mike Eddy, Chief Director Fire & Emergency Service

**DATE:** December 8, 2004

**SUBJECT:** Site Selection for Municipal Facilities - District 2  
(Recreation Centre and Fire Hall)

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## INFORMATION REPORT

### ORIGIN

Regional Council, November 9 and 16th, 2004:

An information report was presented to Council in response to a request in item # 11.3.5. - Councillor Snow - Site Selection - Recreation Centre District 2 - respecting site selection for municipal facilities in District 2 (Recreation Centre and Fire Hall).

### BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

Staff is continuing to gather information to enable the evaluation of the two sites for the proposed recreation facility.

With respect to the first site, the Jefferson Property, staff is in the process of carrying out both geotechnical and a phase II Archaeological testing on this site. Although the testing is nearing completion - we do not expect to receive either report until December 17<sup>th</sup> at the earliest. With this information, staff will assess the feasibility of the co-location of the Zone 4 Fire Station and the District 2 Recreation Centre on the Jefferson Property. Staff has determined that the co-location of the Fire Station and the Recreation Facility on the Jefferson site is acceptable to all parties and may provide advantages and economies of construction and services. Verification that the site can accommodate both facilities is dependant on the results of the Geotechnical and Archaeological testing.

Regarding the second potential site, the McDonald Property in Waverley, staff has been in contact with Natural Resources regarding the request for permission to test the Waverley property. We have not received a response to our requests to date. Staff has been in communication with their office and have been informed that it will be mid January at the earliest before we receive the authorization to test that site. In addition, HRM Staff is also still awaiting information from the Province regarding the purchase or leasing options for the Waverley Property. At present we are being told that the purchase price would be market value. This information is also a significant factor in the site selection process.

Staff's ability to determine the viability of the Jefferson site is dependant upon the Geotechnical and Archaeological testing. If test results indicate that the Jefferson site is appropriate for the construction of both the Zone 4 Fire Station and the District 2 Recreation Facility then staff will be forth coming with a recommendation to that effect. If it is found that the site is not appropriate then staff will continue to explore other site options and bring a recommendation to Council.

If testing results are positive, based on the current schedule the earliest staff would be able to make a site recommendation would be the end of January.

### **BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

There are no budget implications at this time.

### **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**

N/A

### **ATTACHMENTS**

N/A

Additional copies of this report, and information on its status, can be obtained by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210, or Fax 490-4208.

Report Prepared by: Barb MacDonald, Project Manager, Buildings - Capital Project, RPAM (490-4180)