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**Item No. 6**  
**Halifax Regional Council**  
**September 29, 2009**

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

**SUBMITTED BY:**   
Phillip Townsend, Director of Infrastructure and Asset Management

**DATE:** September 25, 2009

**SUBJECT:** Beaver Bank Kinsac Community Centre

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### INFORMATION REPORT

#### ORIGIN

This report originates as a result of the Beaver Bank Kinsac Community Centre fire which occurred on Thursday, September 24, 2009.

#### BACKGROUND

The Community Centre which served the Beaver Bank and surrounding areas was built in 2004 following significant community engagement and was operated by a not-for-profit volunteer organization. It provided a multi-purpose recreational and community gathering place for the entire community and was the focus of great community pride.

The multi-functional facility included a local RCMP Community Policing Office, a C@P site and the Beaver Bank Volunteer Fire Department. It also included a large multi-purpose room, full kitchen, board room, children's programming room, two adjoining lounges, and a community lounge.

## **DISCUSSION**

Discussions are underway at the staff level for the rebuilding of the Centre. The goal will be to rebuild from the ground up as quickly as possible. The building is fully insured. However, staff will need to determine what, if any, additional funding will be required to reconstruct the building. It is staff's intent to identify these costs in the upcoming capital budget process.

When built in 2004, the 22,000 square foot Community Centre/Fire Station cost approximately \$3,000,000. HRM will work closely with the Community and the Beaver Bank Kinsac Community Centre Board to rebuild the Centre as soon as possible. Initial contact has already been made with community members.

Due to the fire wall which separated the 4,200 square foot Fire Services' apparatus bay from the Community Centre it appears that much of that component of the building is still structurally intact. Although these are still early days in the investigation of condition of the building, every effort will be made to maintain the function of the Beaver Bank Volunteer Fire Department at this site.

To ensure the safety of the site it has been secured with 24/7 security and auxiliary lighting. In the upcoming days components of the building deemed unsafe to remain standing will be selectively demolished.

Fire operations will not be impacted. Trucks will be kept on site and will respond from there.

Staff will keep Council informed of the situation and next steps with respect to the rebuilding of the Centre.

## **BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

The costs of rebuilding the Centre have not yet been determined. It is anticipated that insurance will cover the majority of the full replacement cost of the building.

## **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.

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.

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