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**Item No. 7**  
**Halifax Regional Council**  
**May 18, 2010**

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

**SUBMITTED BY:**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ken Reashor".

Ken Reashor, P.Eng., Acting Director Transportation & Public Works

**DATE:** May 4, 2010

**SUBJECT:** Transitional and Vacant Building Expenditures

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### **INFORMATION REPORT**

#### **ORIGIN**

This report originates with a request from Councillors McCluskey and Fisher for additional information on what surplus or transitional properties the Municipality owns, and how much it costs to support/maintain them.

This report provides high level information of select buildings that are transitional or vacant and are under review or active disposal.

**BACKGROUND**

The Municipality has been actively managing its transitional and surplus property portfolio to cost avoid operating and capital expenditures and to introduce surplus assets into the market for redevelopment and/or adaptive reuse. In 1997 the Municipality established the Building Transition Program, later succeeded by the interdepartmental Real Property Review Committee to review, on a continual basis, the municipal holdings that could potentially be disposed of.

Since 1996 staff has successfully lead the rationalization of property footprint with significant outcomes with respect to property disposal. Property disposal to date is measured as follows:

- ▶ >350 Acres / >235 Properties
- ▶ >\$55,000,000 Revenue

The Real Property Review Committee is facilitated through Transportation and Public Works Real Estate and Facility Services office. Inquiries or questions can be sent to Elaine Wall, Real Property Technician at [walle@halifax.ca](mailto:walle@halifax.ca).

**DISCUSSION**

As part of the ongoing budget process for 2010-11 staff has identified a number of buildings where potential savings could be achieved through various means of disposal. A summary list of transitional or surplus buildings under active review is attached to this report marked Attachment A. The attached list does not include residential dwellings, acquired for municipal purposes, held and rented pending commencement of infrastructure projects. The Municipality currently holds a portfolio of 10 residential properties that generate annual gross revenues of \$103,000, expenses of \$56,000 and a net operating income of \$47,000 (2009/10).

In addition, various Business Units are initiating and reviewing facilities requirements against operational and programming requirements.

Business Unit	Scope	Potentially Impacted Facilities/Assets
Fire Services	Fire Station Rationalization	King Street Fire Station, Dartmouth
Transportation and Public Works	Operations Depot Rationalization/Efficiencies	To be determined through 2010/11
Infrastructure and Asset Management	Parkland Rationalization	To be determined through 2010/11
Community Development	HRM Owned/Community Managed Facilities; Arena Review; Peninsula Recreation Center Review	To be determined through 2010/11

**BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

There are no budget implications.

**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.

**ATTACHMENTS**

Transitional/Vacant Buildings Summary Report - April 2010

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.

Report Prepared by: Peter Stickings, Manager Real Estate & Facility Services

