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**Item No. 5**  
**Halifax Regional Council**  
**June 8, 2010**

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

**SUBMITTED BY:**   
Brad Anguish, Director, Halifax Harbour Solutions Project

**DATE:** May 10, 2010

**SUBJECT:** Harbour Solutions Project - 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Report  
January 1 to March 31, 2010

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### INFORMATION REPORT

#### ORIGIN

This report originates from the Council session of October 22, 2002 when staff was authorized to submit quarterly reports for the duration of the project.

#### BACKGROUND

HRM has entered into five contracts to date for the implementation of the Halifax Harbour Solutions Project, namely:

- an infrastructure development agreement for the construction of the three Wastewater Collection Systems on October 15, 2003 with Dexter Construction; and
- a development agreement for the construction of three advanced primary Wastewater Treatment Facilities on June 15, 2004 with D&D Water Solutions, Inc.; and
- a development agreement for the construction of a Biosolids Processing Facility on November 30, 2004 with SGE Acres Limited, and
- an operating and maintenance agreement for the Biosolids Processing Facility on November 30, 2004, with N-Viro Systems Canada Inc.; and
- an operating agreement for the transportation of dewatered biosolids from the three new Wastewater Treatment Facilities on May 31, 2006, with Seaboard Liquid Carriers Limited.

## DISCUSSION

The primary purpose of this report is to provide a historical report of project activities over the previous quarter up until March 31, 2010 in accordance with Regional Council direction. The attachment to this report provides the required historical accounting of project activities in the format that has been used throughout the Harbour Solutions Project.

Where there has been much progress during the current quarter since March 31, 2010, staff are providing a brief executive overview of the project progress against the three current strategic project priorities identified in consultation with Regional Council, as follows:

1. Restore the Halifax Wastewater Treatment Facility as soon as possible to mitigate future flooding;
2. Shield tax and water/wastewater ratepayers to maximum extent possible from potential additional costs;
3. Complete the entire Halifax Harbour Solutions Project as soon as possible.

### **Restore the Halifax Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF)**

The Halifax WWTF was shut down on January 14, 2009 due to the wastewater flooding in the wet well and basement areas of the plant. As reported in the first quarter report, a two phase plan was developed to fully restore the facility and re-establish the required treatment levels. Phase 1 included re-establishing the wastewater flows through the plant which involved screening and by-passing the treatment process with effluent discharge into the harbour via the existing Halifax WWTF outfall. Phase 2 involves restoring the remainder of the facility, particularly replacing and/or repairing the damaged equipment in the basement back to the original or modified condition to re-establish the treatment capacity at the Halifax WWTF.

Phase 1 has been completed. The components in the wet well have been repaired and all of the junction boxes that were prone to damage from submergence have been relocated to street level. The original wastewater pumps have been refurbished and re-installed in the bottom of the wet well to enable flow diversion through the plant. Partial re-commissioning of the plant began on September 28, 2009, when the flow was re-introduced to the plant. Since then, the plant has been working well with volumes up to two times average dry weather sewage flow now directed through the plant with screening and odour control. As a result, the surface discharge of floatables and debris from the combined sewer overflow points around the Harbour have been significantly reduced and odours caused by stagnant wastewater in the Halifax collection system have been eliminated.

As of the date of this report, Phase 2 is nearing completion. All damaged equipment has been repaired or replaced and commissioned with clean water. Wastewater flows were re-introduced to the plant on May 27, 2010 and the commissioning phase will continue until the plant's design

performance parameters are re-established. The commissioning phase will take several weeks to complete. Concurrently, all of the automated screens from all of the combined sewer overflows in the peninsula wastewater collection system will be re-installed. These screens were removed during plant shutdown to prevent further damage/malfunctions within the wastewater collection and treatment system.

The Harbour water quality monitoring program is expected to recommence around mid-June 2010.

In terms of mitigating a flood occurrence in the future, all of the junction boxes for the raw water pumps and the environmental sensors have been moved upstairs in the plant to the street level. There is also a Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) interlock in place that will shut down the pump stations feeding the plant to reduce flows to the Halifax WWTF should the inlet gate fail to close in the future. There have been other improvements implemented such as backup systems in case of failure of the existing systems. Significant work has been completed on the power distribution system and the control power panels have been backed up from various power sources.

### **Shield Tax and Water/Wastewater Ratepayers to Maximum Extent Possible from Potential Additional Costs**

Overall, the \$333 million Harbour Solutions Project remains within budget. As a result of the flooding incident at the Halifax WWTF, there has been widespread public speculation that tax and/or ratepayers will be “on the hook” for any additional costs that arise. In addition to a substantial security package that guarantees Contractor performance during the three year performance warranty period following delivery of each asset to HRM, the Harbour Solutions Project also has numerous substantial insurance policies in place including property, builder’s risk, professional liability, and wrap-up liability policies.

The flooding incident is insured under the Project’s builder’s risk policy. Policy coverage provides for repair for the WWTF to its pre-incident state with all affected equipment/systems being repaired or replaced and three year warranty provisions restored. As a result, HRM and Halifax Water (HW) staff are working very closely with the Insurer to ensure their position is not prejudiced in any way such that full cost recovery in accordance with the terms of the policy can be expected.

Thus far, roughly \$ 8 million dollars has been spent on the plant recovery. Insurance claims are being submitted on a frequent schedule. Halifax Water (HW) has received about \$7 million to date from the insurance company and expect another claim to be submitted in the near future.

A preliminary estimate has been developed for the overall project at an estimated cost of approximately \$11 million, the vast majority of which will be covered under the Builder’s Risk insurance policy that was in place at the time of the flood incident.

To the extent that HW/HRM may incur WWTF recovery costs not eligible for reimbursement under the terms of the insurance policy, staff will seek recovery from the Contractor if it is determined that the associated work should have initially been provided under the scope and terms of the Project Agreement. To ensure maximum focus remains on repairing the Halifax WWTF, and completing all Project assets as soon as possible, both staff and the Contractor agree that this matter should only be dealt with after the Halifax WWTF has been returned to full operation.

Regarding the successful completion of the Harbour Solutions Project wastewater collection systems and treatment plants in each of Halifax, Dartmouth and Herring Cove, each of these assets has a three year performance warranty backed by corporate guarantees and a security package designed to mitigate financial risk in the event of a default by the Contractors. The security package includes:

**Wastewater Collection Systems (WWCS):**

- Performance Bond in the face amount of 100% of the Guaranteed Maximum Price (approximately \$120 million);
- Labour and Materials Payment Bond in the face amount of 50% of the Guaranteed Maximum Price (approximately \$60 million);
- Corporate Guarantee by Municipal Enterprises Limited, Degremont Ltd., and Suez, all parent companies to D&D Water Solutions.

**Wastewater Treatment Facilities (WWTF):**

- \$15 million irrevocable, stand-by Letter of Credit;
- \$20 million Performance Bond;
- \$20 million Labour and Material Payment Bond;
- Corporate Guarantees from Municipal Enterprises Limited, Degremont Ltd., and Suez, all parent companies to D&D Water Solutions.

The Project Agreement also includes provisions which permit HRM to withhold payments if there are defaults and to hold back monies to cover the costs of any unremedied deficiencies at the Date of Substantial Completion. Additionally, HRM has withheld 10% of all payments made to date to D&D under the WWTF Agreement, and Dexter under the WWCS Agreement in accordance with the requirements of the Builder's Lien Act to address any lien claims that may arise.

Staff will continue to employ the substantial completion remedies provided under the Project Agreements outlined above to shield tax and water/wastewater ratepayers from potential additional costs to the maximum extent possible.

**Complete the full Harbour Solutions Project ASAP**

Despite the flooding incident of January 14, 2009, all Project contractors continue to rectify deficiency items in the Biosolids Processing Facility (BPF) and the Halifax WWTF and WWCS.

They also completed the commissioning of the Dartmouth WWTF and WWCS and the commissioning of the Herring Cove WWTF and WWCS is well underway.

In accordance with the Transfer Agreement approved by Regional Council in June 2007, transfer of ownership, custody and control of the Halifax WWCS (with the exceptions noted below), the Halifax WWTF and the Biosolids Processing Facility (BPF) from HRM to Halifax Water occurred on June 1, 2009.

### ***Halifax***

Substantial Completion of the Halifax Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) and the Wastewater Collection System (WWCS) was achieved on December 19, 2008. The exceptions are Pier A Pumping Station and Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) chamber, as well as the other Halifax CSO chambers (excluding Balmoral CSO chamber). These exceptions remain the responsibility of the Contractor until satisfactory substantial performance can be proven.

Work on the WWCS continues to focus on the identification and rectification of deficiencies and application of the Substantial Completion process for those components that have not yet achieved Substantial Completion. Gearbox drives for the automated screens within various Halifax CSO chambers were changed out for new ratio models. Staff remain optimistic that this will improve system performance once the whole Halifax system is restored to full operation. All of the automated screens that were removed from the CSOs during plant shutdown will be reinstalled in late June, 2010.

Regarding the Halifax WWTF, beyond the flooding restoration work being conducted as described above, D&D Water Solutions Inc. continues to focus on the rectification of identified deficiencies during the Substantial Completion process.

### ***Dartmouth***

The Dartmouth WWCS and WWTF have been treating flows since July 2008.

In October 2009, the Contractor submitted the documentation for Substantial Completion of the Dartmouth WWCS. The documentation is being reviewed by staff and the Contractor continues to focus on the rectification of deficiencies.

Regarding the WWTF, the Contractor has completed the 14 day performance test required by Contract and achieved Substantial Completion on April 21, 2010.

### *Herring Cove*

Regarding the WWCS, the new additional holding tank at Roaches Pond has already received Substantial Completion and is working in combination with the newly upgraded pumping station at Roaches Pond to significantly reduce historical wet weather sewage overflows and greatly improve the water quality of MacIntosh Run.

The Herring Cove Pumping Station and the Herring Cove WWCS and WWTF have been treating wastewater flows since December 14, 2009. The 30 day running test, required by Contract, was started on January 23, 2010, and the 14 day performance test required by Contract was started on April 22, 2010. Staff estimate that the Contractor will submit all required documentation necessary to achieve Substantial Completion for review very soon.

Regarding the surcharging of a manhole at the intersection of Village Rd. and the Herring Cove WWTF access driveway on January 26, 2010, the Owner's Engineer and staff completed an investigation and confirmed that revised operating procedures were implemented by the contractor to ensure this situation will not reoccur. Nova Scotia Environment was informed and is now satisfied that the Requirement of their Directive has been completed in full.

### *Biosolids Processing Facility (BPF)*

The BPF has been processing product since July 2007. Since the shutdown of the Halifax WWTF in January 2009, biosolids continue to be processed from the Aerotech Dewatering Facility and the Dartmouth WWTF. The finished product continues to meet the "Class A" biosolids standard for the Province of Nova Scotia. Consumer demand for the product remains high.

The resolution of outstanding plant deficiencies by the Contractors has been rather slow, although progress has been made on many of the smaller, lower cost related items. Halifax Water and HRM staff are in the process of reaching an agreement with both SGE and N-Viro for final resolution of all plant deficiencies. The most significant deficiency is the replacement of the current dust collection system with an improved and more efficient system.

## **BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

As of March 2010, the Harbour Solutions Project has spent \$321.57 million of its \$332.7 million capital budget. Projections to meet the capital budget of \$332.7 million remain on target based on staff's understanding of the forecasted insurance recoveries relative to the Halifax WWTF flooding incident as discussed earlier in this report.

As all completion “dates certain” for the various components have now passed, there should be no additional inflation risk to the Project. Total inflation for the project is \$23.81 million. As the original inflation budget, assumed at a rate of 2.8%, was \$12.3 million, the remainder of \$11.51 million has been allocated from the contingency budget. The resultant uncommitted contingency balance stands at \$3.35 million as of March 31, 2010; however, staff are advising that these funds be held in reserve until the Project is fully complete and administratively closed.

### **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**

Appendix A - Halifax Harbour Solutions Project - 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Report - January to March 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.

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Report Approved by:



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**Appendix A**  
**Halifax Harbour Solutions Project**  
**4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Report - January 1 to March 31, 2010**

**Introduction**

The intent of this document is to provide Council and staff with a general overview of the Harbour Solutions Project progress during the period between January 1 and March 31, 2010.

It is presented in sections:

Section 1 - Wastewater Collection System (WWCS)

Section 2 - Wastewater Treatment Facilities (WWTF)

Section 3 - Biosolids Processing Facility (BPF)

Section 4 - Pollution Prevention Program

Section 5 - Water Quality Sampling Program

Section 6 - Financial Information

Section 7 - Public Involvement and Information Program

Section 8 - Construction Safety

## **Section 1**

### ***Halifax Wastewater Collection System***

Substantial Completion was achieved on December 19, 2008 on the Halifax WWCS, with the exception of Pier A Pumping Station and Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) chamber, as well as the other CSO chambers, excluding the Balmoral CSO chamber.

The Halifax WWCS work during the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2009/10 focused on the identification and rectification of deficiencies, finalizing the punch list and application of the Substantial Completion process for the excluded items.

### ***Dartmouth Wastewater Collection System***

The Dartmouth WWCS work during the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2009/10 continued to focus on finalization of the deficiency list and minor deficiency rectifications.

### ***Herring Cove Wastewater Collection System***

The Herring Cove WWCS work during the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2009/10 continued to focus on finalization of the deficiency list and minor deficiency rectifications. Substantial Completion for Herring Cove WWCS cannot be contractually achieved until the treatment facility achieves Substantial Completion as well. The Herring Cove WWCS has been operating with wastewater flows since December 14, 2009.

## **Section 2**

### ***Halifax Wastewater Treatment Facility***

At the time of writing this report, all equipment in the WWTF has been installed and tested with clean water. Wastewater commissioning commenced May 27, 2010. The process commissioning will take several weeks to complete.

### ***Dartmouth Wastewater Treatment Facility***

The Dartmouth WWTF commissioning activity continued with a focus on meeting the project specifications for odour and effluent quality prior to achieving Substantial Completion. Fine-tuning of the facility's treatment system is ongoing during this quarter.

At the time of writing this report, the Dartmouth WWTF achieved Substantial Completion on April 21, 2010.

### ***Herring Cove Wastewater Treatment Facility***

Construction of the Herring Cove WWTF is essentially complete, with deficiency identification and rectification already underway. The 30 day running test was completed during this quarter. At the time of writing this report, the 14 day performance test was completed and staff expect that the required documentation for Substantial Completion will soon be submitted for review.

### **Section 3**

#### ***Biosolids Processing Facility***

The BPF has been processing product since July 2007. Since the shutdown of the Halifax WWTF in January 2009, biosolids continue to be processed from the Aerotech Dewatering Facility and the Dartmouth WWTF. The finished product continues to meet the “Class A” biosolids standard for the Province of Nova Scotia. Consumer demand for the finished product remains high.

The resolution of outstanding plant deficiencies by the Contractor has been rather slow, although progress has been made on many of the smaller, lower cost related items. HW and HRM staff are in the process of reaching an agreement with both SGE and N-Viro for final resolution of all plant deficiencies. The most significant deficiency is the replacement of the current dust collection system with a more improved and efficient system.

### **Section 4**

#### ***Pollution Prevention Program***

In support of the Harbour Solutions Project and as a requirement of Provincial legislation, HRM initiated a Source Control Strategy, now referred to as the Pollution Prevention (P2) Program.

This program has been designed and implemented to reduce the levels of organic and inorganic compounds, toxins and other matter currently entering the municipal stormwater and wastewater sewer systems, and ultimately, freshwater and marine environments including Halifax Harbour.

The P2 program requires compliance with Halifax Water’s Rules and Regulations through planning, education, inspections and monitoring at the source of these discharges from all industrial, commercial and institutional locations within HRM. Additionally, educational information is provided through various mediums for the residential sector to allow direct participation by the public in the protection of our natural marine and freshwater resources.

Staff previously provided updates to Council on the status of this program. Since the last update provided to Regional Council, activities that P2 staff have undertaken or completed in support of the Harbour Solutions Project include the following:

- Monitoring to identify the source of observed elevated pH values and conductivity levels of the influent wastewater at the Dartmouth WWTF continued as a priority activity. Sources of periodic elevated pH levels were identified. ICI locations discharging elevated pH were required to install and operate pH pretreatment to meet HW's discharge parameters. At the time of the completion of this report, it is the opinion of staff that most if not all dischargers of overstrength pH have been detected and processes installed by industry to prevent overstrength discharges are complete.
- Sampling and inspections in the Dartmouth WWCS had identified several locations of sea water intrusion to the collection system. The most significant source was isolated during the past two months of high tide events and no elevated chloride concentrations were observed. Permanent isolation of this sea water inflow source is currently being undertaken.
- Elevated chloride and conductivity levels believed to be caused by seawater inflow to the wastewater collection system has been observed in the Halifax WWTF sewershed. Staff have inspected and confirmed that components of the Harbour Solutions project such as the Halifax based CSO locations are not significant sources of sea water inflow. Staff have conducted inspections of the wastewater collection system and have identified suspected direct connections to the sanitary system which are believed to be subject to tidal influence. Investigation to confirm these locations as possible sources of sea water intrusion to the Halifax WWTF collection system is ongoing.

## Section 5

### ***Harbour Water Quality Monitoring***

The Harbour water quality monitoring program was initiated in June, 2004. The present 5-year contract with AMEC for monitoring the harbour ended in June, 2009. It was decided to suspend the regular sampling program until such time as the Halifax plant resumes operation. A set of samples was collected in August, 2009 and again in November, 2009, which confirmed that bacteria levels are elevated throughout the harbour, to levels unsuitable for opening of the swimming beaches. Samples will be collected in late spring of 2010, leading up to the recommissioning of the Halifax plant.

Further regular sampling will begin again after the Halifax plant resumes full operation, either under a renewed or new sampling contract, will confirm whether the water quality targets are met on a consistent basis, as required under the Federal CEEA approval.

Quarterly reports and weekly/bi-weekly data reports and spreadsheets are available online at: <http://www.halifax.ca/harboursol/waterqualitydata.html>.

## Section 6

### ***Financial Information***

As of March 31, 2010, the Harbour Solutions Project has spent \$321.57 million of its \$332.7 million capital budget. Spending for the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2009/10 was \$1.96 million.

### **Inflation**

Contract progress payments are subject to inflation adjustments over the life of the WWCS and WWTF contracts, provided that the work is completed by the Contractors before the specified “Date Certain” for each project component. Payment for all work completed after this date receives no inflation adjustment.

Over the life of the project, 2004/05 was an extraordinary year for construction-related inflation in HRM in terms of its strong increase. In 2005/06 the inflation trend stabilized somewhat, and was lower than the revised inflation projection of 6% (4.31% vs. 7.87% in 2004/05). Inflation for fiscal years 2006/07 and 2007/08 was 5.25%, and 7.78% respectively, while the first quarter of 2008/09 saw inflation of 6.24%.

As of June 2008, the final “Date Certain”, \$11.51 million over and above budgeted inflation of \$12.3 million has been spent on the wastewater collection system and the wastewater treatment plants. As the completion dates for all components have passed, there should be no further inflation incurred.

### **Contingency Spending**

The contingency budget of \$18.20 million is largely set aside for addressing inflation beyond budgeted levels. The contingency is also being used to fund small items that have arisen through the contract amendments. At this point, the contingency balance needs to be reserved to cover potential costs associated with the ongoing operation of the HSP Office, contract management, Halifax WWTF recovery costs, contractor claims - at the very least until these costs are recovered through insurance or contractual obligations. Actual and planned spending of contingency funds is as follows (shown in millions):

Realized inflation in excess of budget	\$11.51
Amount committed for diffusers net of CSIF contribution	2.50 (2.50)
Project amendments	0.91
HST on amendments	0.12
Herring Cove Water & Sewer Commitments	1.66 0.65
Uncommitted	<u>3.35</u>
Total	<u>\$18.20</u>

**Harbour Solutions Project**  
(in millions of dollars)

4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2009/10

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	4th Quarter	Year to Date	Project Total	Budget	Contingency Adjustment	Revised Budget
<b>Firm Price Contracts</b>						
Wastewater Collection System	0.72	0.23	118.50	112.30	1.28	113.58
Wastewater Treatment Facilities	0.12	10.20	135.21	136.90	.26	137.16
Biosolids Processing Facility	-	-	12.58	12.50	0.14	12.64
Net HST	-	-	-	9.60		9.60
Community Liaison Committees	0.80	0.80	7.54	7.00	1.66	8.66
Land	-	-	4.92	4.80		4.80
Pre-Construction Contracted	-	-	7.11	7.10		7.10
<b>Total Firm Price Costs</b>	<b>1.64</b>	<b>11.23</b>	<b>285.86</b>	<b>290.20</b>	<b>3.34</b>	<b>293.54</b>
<b>Variable Costs</b>						
Admin., Contract Mgmt., Communications	0.32	1.60	11.90	12.00		12.00
Contingency	-	-	-	18.20	-14.85	3.35
Inflation	-	-	23.81	12.30	11.51	23.81
<b>Total Variable Costs</b>	<b>0.32</b>	<b>1.60</b>	<b>35.701</b>	<b>42.50</b>	<b>-3.34</b>	<b>39.16</b>
<b>Harbour Solutions Project Total Cost</b>	<b>1.96</b>	<b>12.83</b>	<b>321.57</b>	<b>332.70</b>		<b>332.70</b>
<b>Funding</b>						
EP Reserve Levies	-	-	160.20	160.20		160.20
Long Term Debt						
N.S. Municipal Finance Corp.	-	-	110.00	110.00		110.00
Federation of Canadian Municipalities	-	-	20.0	20.0		20.00
Cost Sharing:						
Province*	-	-	10.01	10.00		10.00
Canada Strategic Infrastructure Fund	-	-	20.85	30.00		30.00
Potential short-term debt	-	-	-	2.50		2.50
<b>Total Funding</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>321.06</b>	<b>332.70</b>		<b>332.70</b>

## Section 7

### ***Public Information and Involvement Program***

Halifax Water, in conjunction with The Marketing, Design and Print Services section of the External & Corporate Affairs Office is responsible for the Public Information and Involvement Program for the Harbour Solutions Project. Since the January 14<sup>th</sup> shutdown, much activity has taken place on the communications front.

#### Public Messaging

Since the January 14<sup>th</sup> malfunction at the Halifax WWTF there has been a great deal of progress on the WWTF restoration, efforts to mitigate odours in the Cogswell St. interchange area, divert flows to the facility in mid/late September 2009, and keep residents, council and the business community informed of progress.

Communications for the time period January 1-March 31, 2010 have continued, though public and media attention to the restoration has lessened with Phase 1 of the 2 stage recovery complete. Extensive communications efforts over the previous months outlining the main concerns of residents have helped to get the critical facts to the public so most are well informed, or easily able to access the information required.

The efforts over this period include a “Stakeholder Update” outlining progress on the Halifax, Dartmouth and Herring Cove WWTFs. These updates continue to be well received and are also available on the HRM and Halifax Water websites.

Our direct-to-stakeholder list includes the Restaurant Association of Nova Scotia, The Downtown Halifax Business Commission, the Downtown Dartmouth Business Commission, Destination Halifax, Casino Nova Scotia, Murphy’s on the Water, Canadian Restaurant and Food services Association to name just a few. A direct link to these pieces can be found at <http://www.halifax.ca/HWWTF/StakeholderUpdates.html>

Also during this period, Harbour Solutions had a full, page article in the Naturally Green newsletter. This newsletter goes to every household in HRM. The article provided the latest detail on the Halifax, Dartmouth and Herring Cove WWTFs. In conjunction with the Harbour Solutions Project (HSP) article, Halifax Water ran a piece in Naturally Green referencing the wastewater/stormwater infrastructure deficit. These linked themes help residents realize the environmental, commercial and residential importance of our wastewater/stormwater infrastructure and the need to adequately fund these assets. These related themes are gaining widespread public/media interest as new CCME regulations could to the forefront.

Halifax Water also ran an HSP article in the HRM News during this time period.

Halifax Water staff attended the Real Home Show at the Halifax Forum complex. Harbour Solutions Project information was distributed to interested attendees, and many questions answered.

There have also been infrequent media interviews and newspaper information requests. These are mainly along the lines of Halifax WWTF project updates.

Halifax Water and HRM will continue with this extensive communications effort for as long as is required. We will and are making every effort to let residents and businesses know what is happening to get the Halifax WWTF back to full operation, as well as providing updates on the Dartmouth and Herring Cove WWTFs.

#### Community Liaison Committees (CLC)

The Herring Cove CLC has essentially completed their mandate with respect to the WWTF exterior design. The focus of the CLC is now on the landscaping around the WWTF, the Herring Cove pumping station and Latter's Pond recreation area. With respect to WWTF landscaping, the committee is waiting to see the full extent of landscaping to be undertaken by project contractors prior to developing a final plan of their own.

The CLC has also set aside funds for development of a local swimming area called Latter's Pond. A sub-committee of the CLC has been working with staff from HRM's Community Development division in these efforts.

Corporate Communications staff will continue to meet with CLC members and the community as required.

In Dartmouth, the former CLC allocated the majority of its funds to add to the extensive trail system now in place along the Dartmouth waterfront.

In Halifax the CLC has disbanded and the Halifax Community Investment Fund Board has been established. The Greater Halifax Partnership and HRM Community Development are working in conjunction with the fund board.

#### Presentations

Presentations are developed on an on-going basis for conferences, workshops and community groups. The presentations are updated regularly to correspond with project progress. These presentations are available on compact discs and on the HSP website.

Three Harbour Solutions display units continue to be used at public meetings, trade/home shows, WWTF openings and other events. The display units focus on the positive message of the project, stewardship and integrating of messaging with HRM's Pollution Prevention Program.

As part of our presentation materials, Mayflower Models has been contracted to construct 3 scale models of the new wastewater treatment plants. The Halifax and Dartmouth models are complete. These are a valuable tool in explaining the advanced primary treatment process.

#### Harbour Solutions Website

The Harbour Solutions website continues to be updated on a regular basis and is a valuable, user-friendly public source of information on the Project. Staff continue to maintain the site for Harbour Solutions. Halifax Water staff also update the Halifax Water site as required. Both sites feature a large photo gallery, reference materials, past and current presentations, construction notices informing residents of any possible traffic impacts and a large collection of information related to the SCS, WWTF and BioSolids processes. The site is housed both on the HRM and Halifax Water websites.

#### Signage

PIIP staff liaised with the federal and provincial governments to design, produce and install temporary construction signage for the sites of the three Wastewater Treatment Facilities. This temporary signage has now been replaced with permanent facility signage..

#### Correspondence

As requested/required, letters and e-mails are drafted to address concerns/enquiries from citizens regarding the Project. Staff regularly respond to numerous requests for HSP information from the general public, interest groups, media, Mayor Kelly and HRM Councillors, staff and others. Letters are also drafted for the CLC's and other levels of government.

### **Section 8**

#### ***Construction Safety***

There were no lost time incidents during the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2009/10.