



P.O. Box 1749  
Halifax, Nova Scotia  
B3J 3A5 Canada

## Item No. 14.1

Request for Regional Council Consideration		
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Agenda Item</b> (Submitted to Municipal Clerk's Office by Noon at least 5 working days prior to the meeting)	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Added Item</b> (Submitted to Municipal Clerk's Office by Noon at least one day prior to meeting)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Request from the Floor</b>
<b>Date of Meeting: September 8, 2015</b>		
<b>Subject: Support for Syrian Refugees</b>		
<b>Motion for Regional Council to consider:</b>		
<b>Whereas the humanitarian crisis unfolding in the Mediterranean has captured the attention of people across Canada and around the world, Regional Council request:</b>		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) The Mayor to write a letter to the federal Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, assuring that Halifax will provide a welcoming environment for refugees, and calling on the Government of Canada to act urgently in response to the unfolding Syrian refugee crisis;</li><li>2) The Mayor to write a letter to the Nova Scotia Minister of Immigration, supporting the provincial government's call to take in more refugees, and assuring that Halifax will provide a welcoming environment for refugees; and</li><li>3) A staff report outlining what additional measures the municipality may take, within the municipal mandate, which would further assist in the resettlement process, including assistance to community partners involved in refugee settlement, should Halifax receive a sudden and significant number of refugees.</li></ol>		
<b>Reason:</b>		
The Government of Canada has committed to resettle 11,300 Syrian refugees to Canada, and the Nova Scotia government has expressed a willingness to take in more refugees in Nova Scotia. While refugee resettlement is outside of the municipality's formal mandate, municipal services, such as transit, recreation, and libraries, can play an important role in the resettlement process.		
<b>Outcome Sought:</b>		
A letter from the Mayor to the federal Minister of Citizenship and Immigration and to the provincial Minister of Immigration regarding the Syrian refugee crisis, and a staff report outlining additional measures the municipality may take in the resettlement of refugees.		
Mayor Savage		