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**Halifax Regional Council**  
**December 6, 2005**

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

**SUBMITTED BY:**   
Paul Dunphy, Director, Planning & Development Services

**DATE:** November 30, 2005

**SUBJECT:** HRM/Tenancy Board Partnership

### INFORMATION REPORT

#### ORIGIN

At the November 8, 2005 meeting of Regional Council (item #4), staff was directed to “enter into consultation with the Residential Tenancy Program, specifically relating to the collection of rent In Trust until repairs are done to code and By-law citation orders, regarding delinquent landlords who have shown resistance in being responsible to their tenants.”

#### BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

Staff have discussed this matter with the Director of the Residential Tenancy Program who is very agreeable to developing a working partnership with HRM staff. A meeting is scheduled for early December to discuss areas of common interest, including the issue of holding rent In Trust pending compliance with orders under municipal Bylaw.

Other issues of discussion for that meeting will be:

- release of HRM Inspection reports directly to the Tenancy Program;
- routine notification of violations;
- educational material for distribution by HRM staff;
- safety nets in cases of building evacuation;
- etc.

Staff will return to Council with detailed recommendations following agreement with the Tenancy Program staff and other stakeholder agencies on how these issues may be addressed.

It is staff's intention to establish a permanent Stakeholder Committee to provide a forum for ongoing dialogue between government agencies and community stakeholders. This committee will be modelled after the Development Liaison Group (DLG) which has proven very successful in addressing stakeholder concerns in the development industry.

**BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

None

**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**

None

**ATTACHMENTS**

None

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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