

CLEAN AIR STRATEGY FRAMEWORK DOCUMENT



Why a Clean Air Strategy?

- Air quality may be the most important single indicator of sustainability.
- Vital importance:
 - Health
 - Quality of the living environment
 - Indicator of economic wellbeing
 - Relevant to the urban and suburban parts of HRM
- Precautionary principle.

Strong Foundations and Principles

- Sustainability
- Polluter Pays
- Precautionary Principle
- Stewardship
- Adaptive Management
- Shared Responsibility
- Cost Benefit/Life Cycle Approach
- Cooperative Community Empowerment
- Lead by Example through Innovation

Elements of the Strategy Development

- Review of legislative context
- Consultation with stakeholders
- Review linkages and synergies with HRM plans and policies
- Review and adapt the best strategies of other municipalities
- Develop options for HRM

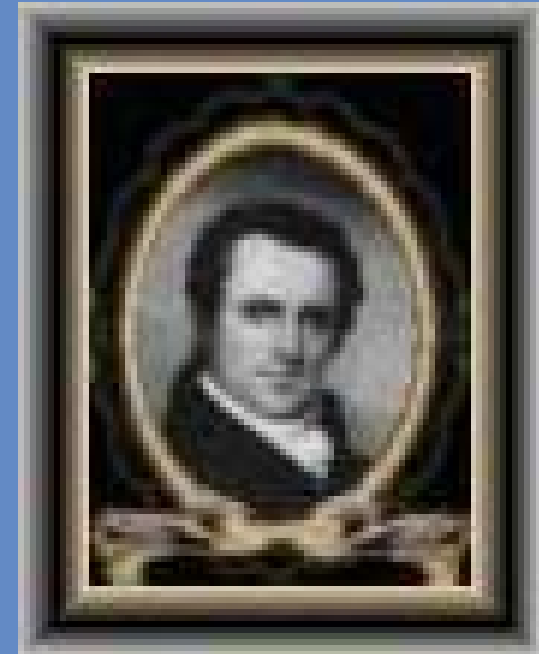
Issues Addressed in the Strategy

- Does HRM need an Air Quality By-Law?
- NSEL is developing airshed management strategies, and invites active participation from HRM
- Current source sectors have been improving air quality and are within their limits
- Scientific evidence to link air quality issues in HRM with health impacts is very sparse.
- HRM council is concerned about air quality and very supportive of the pursuit of an effective strategy.

Key Strategic Elements

- Integrated airshed management – participation, leading role (information acquisition)
- Dialogue with local and external agencies, for example:
 - NSEL, NS Energy
 - Environment Canada
 - New England Governors and Eastern Premiers
- Support of Regional Plan
- Collaboration with NGO, Educational, Medical groups on public education and awareness (information dissemination)

"The air, the water and the ground are free gifts to man and no one has the power to portion them out in parcels. Man must drink and breathe and walk and therefore each man has a right to his share of each."



James Fenimore Cooper (1789-1851)

The Prairie 1827