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SEP 29 2020

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Dear Madam Chair,

On behalf of the Heritage Trust of Nova Scotia, I am requesting the opportunity to give a brief presentation to the Heritage Advisory Committee on alternative compliance with building code for heritage buildings. I hope to provide the members of the HAC with the information needed to formulate a motion to request a report from City staff on how alternative compliance can be used on registered buildings and in heritage districts. Alternative compliance paves the way for easier upgrades, thereby supporting the active use and long-term sustainability of these buildings. The Heritage Trust feels this will help many buildings which are now at risk. With much of HRM's existing housing stock being over 50 years old, this matter will become increasingly relevant.

Many historic buildings and areas face significant challenges in code compliance. Often it is due to lack of education for compliance staff about heritage and effective alternatives. The Heritage Trust also hopes that this presentation will open a constructive dialogue between compliance officers and heritage staff.

Former HRM Chief Inspector Jim Donovan has kindly given permission to use a presentation he has made and given in the past for this purpose.

I thank you in advance for an opportunity to address the Committee and hope to educate on this critical matter.

Regards,

William G. Breckenridge Retired HAC member