

Regional Watersheds Advisory Board – 2018 Summary

This summary is not an official record of all work and recommendations made in 2018. For more detail, please refer to the approved minutes available online at <https://www.halifax.ca/city-hall/agendas-meetings-reports>

The Regional Watersheds Advisory Board advises the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee with respect to watershed management.

January 10, 2018

The Board discussed inviting the Oathill Lake Conservation Society to present an update on their work. The reviewed their Terms of Reference and mandate.

February 14, 2018

The Board reviewed their Terms of Reference and mandate, with the formulation of directives deferred to the next meeting. The Board received and reviewed a Proposed 2018 Work Plan – Staff Directed Work.

March 14, 2018

The Board reviewed their Terms of Reference and approved the following motion:

THAT the Regional Watersheds Advisory Board recommends that the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee recommend that staff be directed to review the Regional Watersheds Advisory Board's Terms of Reference and mandate and take into consideration the suggestions made by the Board.

The edit to the proposed changes to the Board's purpose to speak to the internal business units providing yearly work plans was:

- Have the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee and other internal business units, such as Energy and Environment and Solid Waste Management, provide yearly work plans to the Regional Watersheds Advisory Board

The edits and addition to the proposed changes to the Board's composition was as follows:

- Have representation from a member of Halifax Regional Council to establish and create a link (liaison) between Council and the Regional Watersheds Advisory Board.
- Remove the doctoral training clause and have a less limiting academic connection requirement. The individuals should be active professionals.

April 11, 2018

Meeting cancelled.

May 9, 2018

The Board discussed water quality monitoring and received an introduction to the Draft 'Package A' Centre Planning Documents.

June 13, 2018

The Board reviewed the Flood Risk Assessment Study for the National Disaster Mitigation Program.

July 11, 2018

The Board reviewed the Green Network Plan.

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August 1, 2018

The Board received a presentation from John Somers, Nova Scotia Environment on the development of the Coastal Protection Legislation.

September 12, 2018

Meeting cancelled.

October 10, 2018

Meeting cancelled.

November 14, 2018

The Board received an update on the benthic macroinvertebrate study in Lake Charles and approved the following motion:

THAT the Regional Watersheds Advisory Board recommends that the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee request staff prepare a report considering:

- 1. Strategic partnerships with volunteer community groups in monitoring the water quality of Halifax Regional Municipality lakes and collecting base line data;**
- 2. Investing in water testing equipment, specifically a Conductivity Temperature Depth (CTD) instrument, for multiple parameter testing;**
- 3. Activating the Green Network Plan strategy and expand its approach to watershed issues; and**
- 4. Consider this recommendation when receiving upcoming studies and reports.**

The Board received a staff presentation on the proposed Stormwater Management By-law.