



**ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY STANDING COMMITTEE
MINUTES
February 3, 2022**

PRESENT: Councillor Tony Mancini, Chair
Councillor Kathryn Morse, Vice Chair
Councillor Cathy Deagle Gammon
Councillor Sam Austin
Councillor Shawn Cleary
Deputy Mayor Pam Lovelace

STAFF: Kelly Denty, Executive Director, Planning and Development
Joshua Judah, Senior Solicitor
Simon Ross-Siegel, Legislative Assistant

The following does not represent a verbatim record of the proceedings of this meeting.

The agenda, reports, supporting documents, information items circulated, and video (if available) are online at halifax.ca.

The meeting was called to order at 1:03 p.m., and the Standing Committee adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m. and acknowledged that the meeting took place in the traditional and ancestral territory of the Mi'kmaq people, and that we are all treaty people.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – December 15, 2021

MOVED by Councillor Deagle Gammon, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lovelace

THAT the minutes of December 15, 2021 be approved as circulated.

3. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS

Additions: None

Deletions: None

As provided for in Section 37 (1) of Administrative Order One, Standing Committee requested that item 17. be considered prior to item 12.1.1.

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Lovelace, seconded by Councillor Deagle Gammon

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES – NONE

5. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS – NONE

6. MOTIONS OF RECONSIDERATION – NONE

7. MOTIONS OF RESCISSION – NONE

8. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE

9. NOTICES OF TABLED MATTERS – NONE

10. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

10.1 Correspondence

Correspondence was received and circulated for item: 12.1.1

For a detailed list of correspondence received refer to the specific agenda item.

10.2 Petitions – None

10.3 Presentation

10.3.1 Wildlife Corridor Landscape Design Charette Report – Karen McKendry, Wilderness Outreach Coordinator, Ecology Action Centre

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Presentation dated February 3, 2022
- Presentation request from Karen McKendry dated November 22, 2021

Karen McKendry, Wilderness Outreach Coordinator, Ecology Action Centre, gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee.

10.3.2 Efficiency Nova Scotia – Sarah Buckle, Executive Director and Chief Climate Investment Officer of the Halifax Climate Investment, Innovation and Impact Fund (HCi3)

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Presentation dated February 3, 2022
- Presentation request from Josh McLean dated November 24, 2021

Sarah Buckle, Executive Director and Chief Climate Investment Officer of the Halifax Climate Investment, Innovation and Impact Fund (HCi3) and Taylor Owen, HCi3 Program Manager, gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee.

11. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE

12. REPORTS

12.1 STAFF

12.1.1 Declining Water Levels in Williams Lake

The following was before the Standing Committee:

- Staff recommendation report dated December 20, 2021
- Correspondence from Karen Lyle, Merv Russell, Elizabeth Dooley, and Cathy Vaughan

MOVED by Councillor Cleary, seconded by Councillor Austin

THAT Environment & Sustainability Standing Committee recommend to Halifax Regional Council request that the Mayor write a letter to the Province requesting that the Williams Lake Dam be assumed by a provincial body and repaired or replaced to address its impact on declining water levels in Williams Lake or that the Province revisit its position on granting permits or agreements for community group ownership or maintenance of dams.

Richard Harvey, Manager of Policy and Planning, responded to questions of clarification from the Standing Committee.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12.2 MEMBERS OF STANDING COMMITTEE – NONE

12.3 BOARDS AND COMMITTEES – NONE

13. MOTIONS – NONE

14. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE)

14.1 In Camera (In Private) Minutes – December 2, 2021

This matter was dealt with in public.

MOVED by Councillor Austin, seconded by Deputy Mayor Lovelace

THAT the In Camera (In Private) minutes of December 2, 2021 be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

15. ADDED ITEMS – NONE

16. NOTICES OF MOTION

16.1 Deputy Mayor Lovelace

TAKE NOTICE that, at a future meeting of the Environment & Sustainability Standing Committee I intend to move that Standing Committee forward the Wildlife Corridor Landscape Design Charette Report to Regional Council for Consideration and inclusion with the Green Network Plan.

17. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Murray Coolican, Williams Lake, spoke on behalf of the Williams Lake Conservation Committee and thanked Councillor Cleary for bringing forward a motion concerning the declining water levels in Williams Lake as well as staff for visiting the area residents and discussing this issue. The speaker encouraged the province to engage in reconstructing the dam and for HRM to contribute to financing the reconstruction. The speaker stated their position is not to recommend a community ownership model. The speaker spoke to issues which the speaker expressed were well addressed and others which were not effectively addressed in the report.

Margo Kerr, Williams Lake, spoke on behalf of the Williams Lake Dam Association regarding declining water levels in Williams Lake and the report before Standing Committee. The speaker stated that the impact of the leaking dam is insufficiently addressed in report, and recreational access and local beauty are underemphasized. The speaker encourage government to take action toward reconstructing the dam as soon as possible. The speaker encouraged the municipality to take a leadership role in this process.

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – March 3, 2022

19. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

Simon Ross-Siegel
Legislative Assistant