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Item No. 21.4
Halifax Regional Council
November 19, 2024

TO: Mayor Fillmore and Members of Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY: Cathie O'Toole, Chief Administrative Officer

DATE: September 23, 2024

SUBJECT: Legislative Update – 2024 Fall Sitting

INFORMATION REPORT

ORIGIN

Staff initiated as a result of the 2024 fall sitting of the Provincial Legislature.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2024 fall sitting of the Provincial Legislature commenced on September 5th and concluded on September 20th. Staff provide Regional Council with updates regarding provincial legislative developments relevant to the Municipality following each sitting of the Legislature, as well as updates relating to Regional Council's list of outstanding legislative requests.

BACKGROUND

Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM) was created by, and gets its authority from, the Province of Nova Scotia. As a result, when the Municipality seeks to take an action outside the scope of its delegated authority, it must request that the Province either grant such authority through legislative enactment, or undertake an action on the Municipality's behalf where it is within their jurisdictional authority to do so.

Regional Council has a number of outstanding legislative requests with the Province, with the oldest dating to 2008. Following sittings of the Provincial Legislature, Council is provided with a report outlining updates on the status of Council's outstanding legislative requests, as well as relevant developments from the legislative sitting with potential impacts for the Municipality.

The 2024 fall sitting of the Legislature commenced on September 5, 2024, and concluded on September 20th. The 10-day sitting saw 6 government bills and 1 private members' bill passed. The sitting was comparatively light in terms of direct implications for HRM. The most notable legislative changes from HRM's perspective include:

1. [Bill No. 455](#) - Act to Establish a Department of Emergency Management and Authorize the Establishment of a Nova Scotia Guard;
2. [Bill No. 467](#) - Amendments to the *Interim Residential Rental Increase Cap Act* and *Residential Tenancies Act*; and
3. [Bill No. 471](#) - *Advancing Nova Scotia Opportunities Act*.

An overview of these legislative changes is provided in the Discussion section of this report. The overviews are not exhaustive but instead convey salient aspects of the new and/or amended legislation.

Prior to the 2024 fall sitting, HRM had 19 active legislative requests submitted for provincial consideration. While none were directly addressed by government bills introduced during the sitting, the province did announce its intention to amend regulations under Nova Scotia's *Building Code Act* to adopt the 2020 National Building Codes. The announcement aligns with an outstanding request from Council dating from 2024, all of which is discussed further below.

DISCUSSION

Legislative Updates – 2024 Fall Sitting

1. Bill No. 455 - Act to Establish a Department of Emergency Management and Authorize the Establishment of a Nova Scotia Guard

Bill 455 introduces changes to the management of emergency response in the province, most notably establishing a new Department of Emergency Management as well as a volunteer corps called the Nova Scotia Guard. The new Department of Emergency Management (department) will integrate existing emergency response teams from across government. The mandate of the new department will include:

- oversight of emergency management, emergency preparedness, incident management and recovery.
- business continuity planning and management for the provincial government.
- emergency “911” systems.
- oversight of the new Nova Scotia Guard.
- oversight of public safety and field communications systems and services.

Minister John Lohr will add oversight of the new Department to their ministerial portfolio.

Bill 455 also establishes the Nova Scotia Guard (Guard), a new body composed of volunteers from across the province who will help communities during and after emergencies. The intent of the Guard include better coordination and training of volunteers in advance of emergencies, who can then be deployed upon request from a municipality or community in need.

Bill 455 was first introduced during the 2024 spring sitting and received several amendments during the fall sitting. Notable among these was the introduction of regional emergency operation centres and regional emergency management organizations, the intent of which is to better coordinate municipal and provincial emergency response efforts with a regional focus. The Minister has authority to determine the number and boundaries for the new regional emergency operation centres; specific plans for which are yet to be released at the time of writing. Some other notable amendments include:

- Empowering the Minister to review municipal emergency response plans and services.
- Creating a new “critical incident” category for emergency response, in which the public health is at risk, but does not trigger a broader state of emergency.
- Introducing new penalties for obstructing a responder during an emergency or contravening the new Act.
- Granting the Minister additional regulation-making authority on matters such as the coordination and co-operation between the orders of government in emergency response, as well as the development, integration and implementation of emergency management programs.

From a municipal perspective, the changes will require better emergency planning practices and will provide greater emergency management supports from the province, particularly for smaller municipal units. HRM staff anticipate limited operational impacts, as HRM's Emergency Management division is comparatively well resourced. Staff note they will utilize the new provincial strategic emergency management plan as a guideline to mirror and coordinate practices, among other adjustments.

Link to Bill No. 455: <https://nslegislature.ca/legislative-business/bills-statutes/bills/assembly-64-session-1/bill-455>

2. Bill No. 467 – Amendments to *Interim Residential Rental Increase Cap Act* and *Residential Tenancies Act*

Bill 467 introduces amendments to the *Interim Residential Rental Increase Cap Act*, which will extend the temporary residential rental cap by an additional two years through to the end of 2027. Prior to the change, the cap was set to expire on December 31, 2025. The cap was first introduced in November 2020 as a temporary measure in response to the pandemic. The cap has been amended several times since, with the current cap limiting residential rent increases to 5 per cent per year. The cap applies to residential tenants who are renewing their leases or those in a fixed-term lease who are signing another fixed-term lease for the same unit. It does not apply to tenants signing leases for new units.

Bill 467 also introduces several amendments to the *Residential Tenancies Act*, which, among other changes, shorten rental arrears eviction timelines. Under the new provisions, when they come into force, landlords will be permitted to commence the eviction process after 3 full days of lapsed rental payment, down from 15 days. Tenants would then have 10 calendar days to pay their rent or dispute the eviction notice. Other changes to the Act include:

- Prescribing circumstances under which landlords can end a tenancy, such as criminal behaviour.
- Prohibiting tenants from subletting units for more rent.
- Permitting residential tenancies orders to be published after a hearing.

Link to Bill No. 467: <https://nslegislature.ca/legislative-business/bills-statutes/bills/assembly-64-session-1/bill-467>

3. Bill No. 471 - *Advancing Nova Scotia Opportunities Act*

Bill 471 is an omnibus bill that includes amendments to 7 different statutes, with changes ranging in focus from public safety measures, promoting the renewable energy industry and strengthening sector-specific regulations. From a municipal perspective, the most relevant change relates to the *Forests Act*, which was amended to increase fines for violations and remove exemptions to daily burn restrictions.

In May 2024, the Province issued a proclamation¹ for the 2024 wildfire season to apply the daily burn restrictions to all provincial, municipal and private campgrounds. The amendments introduced to the *Forests Act* makes these change permanent. The *Forests Act* also received amendments broadening the intent and purpose of the Act to include preventing and mitigating wildfires in a changing climate.

Other changes introduced in Bill 471 include:

- Amendments to the *Marine Renewable-energy Act* to facilitate offshore wind development.
- Amendments to the *Gas Distribution Act* supporting investments in hydrogen and natural gas.
- Amendments to the *Fisheries and Coastal Resources Act* aimed at improving the licensing process for low-impact sustainable aquaculture.
- Administrative amendments to the *Atlantic Provinces Harness Racing Commission Act*.
- Amendments to the *Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Resources Accord Implementation (Nova Scotia) Act* to expand the mandate of the Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Board to regulate offshore renewable energy projects and power lines.
- Amendments to the *Public Procurement Act* aimed at supporting local businesses competing for government contracts.

Link to Bill No. 471: <https://nslegislature.ca/legislative-business/bills-statutes/bills/assembly-64-session-1/bill-471>

Additional Highlights from 2024 Fall Sitting

¹ May 2024 Fire Proclamation: https://novascotia.ca/natr/forestprotection/wildfire/fire-proclamation_2024-05-15.pdf

Other legislation passed during the 2024 fall sitting is outlined below. Refer to the links for greater detail.

- [Bill No. 459](#) (*Health Professional Associations Continuation Act*) – Introduces changes intended to ensure consistency in the oversight of self-regulated health professions in Nova Scotia.
- [Bill No. 464](#) (*Stronger Workplaces for Nova Scotia Act*) – Introduces changes to the workers' compensation system, as well as changes to work leave under the *Labour Standards Code*.
- [Bill No. 476](#) (*French-language Services Act* [amended]) – Introduces several administrative changes and formally recognizes the importance of the French language for the province.
- [Bill No. 482](#) (*Intimate Partner Violence Epidemic Act*) – A private members' bill introduced by the NDP formally recognises gender-based violence as an epidemic in the province.

A full list of bills introduced and passed during the 2024 fall sitting can be [found here](#).

Other Legislative Developments

A. HRM Charter Regulations - Minimum Planning Requirements

On August 21, 2024, the Province announced the introduction of a set of new and amended regulations under the *Halifax Regional Municipality Charter*, the stated objectives of which are removing barriers to create more housing opportunities in HRM.² The changes relate to the *Minimum Planning Requirements Regulations* (MPR), as well as the introduction of two new HRM Charter regulations: the *Planning Appeals Non-Substantive Matters Regulations* and the *Trusted-Partner Program Bylaw Regulations*.

Changes to the MPR Regulations require a heightened emphasis on prioritizing residential development and expediting the supply of housing through prescribed changes to planning policy and land-use regulatory framework. Highlights from the MPR changes include:

- Requiring that the Municipality make increasing the housing supply the priority focus in all land-use planning, regulations, decisions and development approvals under the Municipal Planning Strategy.
- Permitting residential uses in all zones, except for industrial, military, park, transportation reserve, utility uses, and zones intended to protect the environment, water supply or floodplains.
- Requiring that HRM share with the Province the information used to identify, fund and deploy infrastructure to support the supply of housing in anticipation of population growth.
- Removing on-site parking requirements for developments within the urban service area.
- Requiring that HRM not impose maximum height restrictions in a manner that negatively affects the density of residential buildings using mass timber or any other construction method.
- For residential buildings started before April 1, 2027, no requirement can be imposed relating to unit mix, and for multi-unit residential buildings, no requirement may be imposed requiring that the ground floor consist of more than 20 per cent commercial space.
- Permitting manufactured housing, including modified shipping containers, in all residential zones.
- Permitting temporary housing in non-permanent structures in all zones where it can be safely established to allow employees to live on or near a work site during an assignment.
- Requiring that the changes outlined above be implemented by no later than December 31, 2024.
- Requiring that HRM adopt a new secondary municipal planning strategy and land-use by-law for the suburban area by no later than January 31, 2025.

On October 1, 2024, Council initiated the process to consider amendments to all the planning documents to ensure compliance with the changes to the MPR.

² New and amended HRM Charter Regulations can be accessed here: <https://www.novascotia.ca/just/regulations/rxaa-1.htm#hrmcharter>

Additionally, the new *Planning Appeals Non-Substantive Matters Regulations* identify matters relative to Site Plan Approval for residential developments that are non-substantive and unable to be appealed, including colour, cladding materials, windows and doors, and landscaping. The new *Trusted-Partner Program Bylaw Regulations* requires the adoption of a trusted partner program by-law by a date that will be prescribed in writing by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing at a future date.

Refer to the staff report dated September 13, 2024, for greater detail on the changes and impacts for HRM.³

B. Code of Conduct for Elected Municipal Officials

In August 2024, the Province announced that a code of conduct framework for elected municipal officials will come into effect via regulations following the municipal elections in October 2024. All municipal units in the province will be required to adopt a code of conduct consistent with the prescribed model code on or before December 19, 2024.

The development of the code of conduct framework was informed by the Code of Conduct Working Group, which was established in January 2022 and consisted of representatives from the Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities (NSFM), Association of Municipal Administrators of Nova Scotia (AMANS), and the Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing, with HRM staff having participated throughout. The group was tasked with developing a set of recommendations for a code framework that included mandatory code content, available sanctions, and options for an investigator model. The group developed a list of 25 recommendations for a code framework, which were ultimately approved by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

The approved code of conduct framework includes:

- 45 mandatory code content provisions.
- 13 sanctions that can be imposed by a Council in the event of a code breach.
- 7 considerations a Council must consider prior to imposing a sanction.
- The role of the investigator (section 20C of the Charter requires the Municipality to appoint a code of conduct complaints investigator).
- A prescribed process for handling code complaints, investigations, and sanctions.

Regional Council had an outstanding legislative request with the province from 2016 seeking authority to impose monetary sanctions for code violations. The code framework directly addresses Council's request, with several monetary sanctions among the 13 prescribed under the new framework, including:

- Impose fines up to \$1,000 per occurrence, to be paid no later than 6 months from the decision of Council and to be collected in the same manner as other taxes;
- Imposing an appropriate reduction in remuneration for no longer than 6 months; and
- Requiring the repayment of any direct monetary gain to the member of Council, or loss realized by the municipality, as a result of a code violation.

HRM's code of conduct for elected municipal officials is currently set out in Administrative Order 52.⁴ Staff will be returning to Council with a new administrative order to align with the requirements of the new code framework.

Adoption of 2020 National Building Code - Tiered Energy Performance Standards

On September 20, 2024, the province announced that it will amend regulations under Nova Scotia's *Building Code Act* to align with the 2020 National Building Codes. The changes are to be implemented starting in April 2025, and set out new minimum standards for construction in the province, providing guidance on enhanced energy efficiency and accessibility standards and helping to standardizing construction with the rest of the country.

³ September 13, 2024 Staff Report: <https://cdn.halifax.ca/sites/default/files/documents/city-hall/regional-council/241001rc1514.pdf>

⁴ AO 52: <https://cdn.halifax.ca/sites/default/files/documents/city-hall/legislation-by-laws/AO-52.pdf>

Included in the announcement is the commitment to implement the 2020 National Code's tiered energy efficiency performance standards. The National Code's tiered system provides a roadmap to increasing energy efficiency in new construction, with the upper tiers representing more stringent standards. The province has announced that the first three tiers will be phased in over four years, beginning in April 2025. The province has not released their plans regarding the implementation of the 4th and 5th tiers.

The announcement to adopt the 2020 National Building Code's tiered energy performance standards aligns with a legislative request from Council dating from May 2024.⁵

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

No community engagement was required or undertaken in the development of this report.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

The relevant statutes for each piece of legislation passed during the 2024 fall sitting, as well as Council's outstanding legislative requests, are outlined in the Discussion section of this report or attachments.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A – Halifax Regional Council Legislative Request Tracking Sheet – October 2024

A copy of this report can be obtained online at halifax.ca or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 902.490.4210.

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⁵ See Item 15.2.3 from [May 21, 2024](#) meeting of Halifax Regional Council.

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Active Requests

Particulars of Request	
1.	<p><u>Crosswalk Penalties - Motor Vehicle Act/Traffic Safety Act</u></p> <p>Request for the province to consider increasing non-monetary penalties for crosswalk violations.</p>
	<p>Date of Request: March 10, 2015 – Item 11.5.3</p>
2.	<p><u>Heritage Conservation District Development Moratorium – Heritage Property Act</u></p> <p>Request that the province amend the <i>Heritage Property Act</i> and Heritage Conservation Districts regulations, where appropriate, to authorize the Council to adopt a by-law that would suspend specific types of development, for a period not exceeding one (1) year, within the boundaries of an area that Council has identified as part of a background study to establish a Heritage Conservation District.</p>
	<p>Date of Request: February 23, 2016 – Item 9.1.2</p>
3.	<p><u>Parking Fines - Summary Offence Ticket Regulations</u></p> <p>Request that the province amend the Summary Offence Ticket Regulations to increase parking fines for “other” parking types only; not inclusive parking meter violations, as outlined in Option 1, Attachment D (Appendix A) of the staff report dated February 10, 2017, with the following amendment:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">The requested increase to the fine amounts be amended so:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) all Category A (parking) offences are increased from \$25.00 to \$50.00 (rather than \$45.00 as recommended by Committee of the Whole); (b) all Category B (parking) offences are increased from \$50.00 to \$100.00; and (c) all Category C (parking) offences are increased from \$100.00 to \$200.00 rather than \$150.00.
	<p>Date of Request: January 15, 2019 – Item 14.1.6 & February 15, 2017 – Item 5</p>
4.	<p><u>Dooring – Motor Vehicle Act/Traffic Safety Act</u></p> <p>Request that the province amend the <i>Motor Vehicle Act</i> to prohibit people from opening their vehicle doors until it is</p>

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	reasonably safe to do so.
	Date of Request: August 15, 2017 – Item 14.2.3
5.	<p><u>Green Network Plan – Halifax Regional Municipality Charter</u></p> <p>Request that the province amend the <i>Halifax Regional Municipality Charter</i>, as set out in Actions 18 and 61 of the Halifax Green Network Plan, to:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(a) enable the Municipality to acquire sensitive environmental lands (e.g. riparian areas, wetlands, steep slopes, etc.) as an environmental reserve through the land development and subdivision process, in addition to existing parkland dedication provisions; and</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(b) enable a greater range of legislative abilities, such as the ability to enact parkland dedication requirements based on density to address development that does not include the subdivision of land.</p>
	Date of Request: August 14, 2018 - Item 14.3.1
6.	<p><u>Transportation Network Company Fees - Motor Vehicle Act/Traffic Safety Act</u></p> <p>Request that the province amend the <i>Motor Vehicle Act</i> to enable the Municipality to charge Transportation Network Companies (TNCs) per-trip fees. This will enable the Municipality to generate additional revenues as part of the forthcoming regulation of TNCs like Uber and Lyft.</p>
	Date of Request: January 14, 2020 – Item 15.3.1
7.	<p><u>Construction Mitigation Fund – Halifax Regional Municipality Charter</u></p> <p>Request that the province amend the <i>Halifax Regional Municipality Charter</i> to enable HRM to establish a construction mitigation fund to assist with marketing and promotions for business impacted by lengthy construction projects, as well as to provide direct compensation to private sector businesses in those cases where reasonable parking and access cannot be maintained.</p>
	Date of Request: February 25, 2020 – Item 15.1.7

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8.	<p><u>Zero Emission Vehicle Mandate Alignment - Environmental Goals and Climate Change Reduction Act</u></p> <p>Request that the provincial Zero Emission Vehicle mandate, introduced in the <i>Environmental Goals and Climate Change Reduction Act</i>, be strengthened to better align with the targets set in HalifACT.</p>
	<p>Date of Request: November 23, 2021 – Item 15.2.2</p>
9.	<p><u>Photo Enforcement Radar – Motor Vehicle Act/Traffic Safety Act</u></p> <p>That the CAO develop a program of photo enforcement in anticipation of the eventual proclamation of the <i>Traffic Safety Act</i> and in accordance with the recommendations set out in the January 2022 consulting report prepared by Stewart Solutions Inc., which includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request that staff engage with the province to establish the necessary framework, including legislation, to enable a successful photo enforcement program under the <i>Traffic Safety Act</i>.
	<p>Date of Request: March 1, 2022 – Item 15.1.1</p>
10.	<p><u>Authority to Set Speed Limits – Motor Vehicle Act/Traffic Safety Act</u></p> <p>Request that the province delegate the legislative authority to set speed limits below 50 km/hr to the HRM Traffic Authority.</p>
	<p>Date of Request: November 22, 2022 – Item 15.1.8 & April 11, 2017 – Item 14.4.1</p>
11.	<p><u>Community Benefit Agreements – Halifax Regional Municipality Charter</u></p> <p>Request that the province amend the <i>Halifax Regional Municipality Charter</i> to add the power to develop, enter into and enforce Community Benefit Agreements.</p>
	<p>Date of Request: November 22, 2022 – Item 15.1.11</p>
12.	<p><u>Auditor General Term of Appointment – Halifax Regional Municipality Charter</u></p> <p>Request that the province amend the <i>Halifax Regional Municipality Charter</i> to grant Halifax Regional Council the authority to determine the length of a fixed-term appointment for HRM’s Auditor General for a non-renewable term not to exceed 10 years.</p>

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	<p>Date of Request: February 21, 2023 – Item 15.1.4</p>
13.	<p><u>Halifax Water Regional Development Charges Waived for Affordable Housing</u> – <i>Public Utilities Act</i></p> <p>Request that the province amend the <i>Public Utilities Act</i> to enable Halifax Water to waive Regional Development Charges for affordable housing developments.</p>
	<p>Date of Request: November 14, 2023 – Item 15.1.3 & November 10, 2020 – Item 11.1.1</p>
14.	<p><u>Permanent Resident Municipal Voting Rights</u> – <i>Municipal Elections Act</i></p> <p>Request that the province amend the <i>Municipal Election Act</i> to include permanent residents as qualified electors to vote in municipal elections.</p>
	<p>Date of Request: November 14, 2023 – Item 15.2.1 & December 2, 2014 – Item 11.3.3</p>
15.	<p><u>Mi'kmaw Seat Halifax Regional Council</u> – <i>Halifax Regional Municipality Charter</i></p> <p>Request that the province amend the <i>Halifax Regional Municipality Charter</i> to enable HRM to consider a Mi'kmaw council seat, subject to consultation and agreement with Mi'kmaw representatives.</p>
	<p>Date of Request: November 14, 2023 – Item 15.2.1</p>
16.	<p><u>Taxation of Vacant Residential Lots</u> – <i>Halifax Regional Municipality Charter</i></p> <p>Request that the province amend the <i>Halifax Regional Municipality Charter</i> to grant Regional Council authority to impose an additional residential property tax on vacant lots located within areas of HRM, based on assessed value and determined using an inclusion criteria designated by Regional Council.</p>
	<p>Date of Request: March 5, 2024 – Item 15.1.4</p>
17.	<p><u>Identification of Properties Serving Victims of Abuse</u> – <i>Halifax Regional Municipality Charter</i></p> <p>Request the province amend subsections 89 (1) and (4) of the <i>Halifax Regional Municipality Charter</i> to protect the identification of residential properties that are in receipt of a municipal tax exemption that serve victims of abuse, such as emergency shelters and transitional housing, by removing the legislated requirement that such properties be specifically</p>

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	named in policy.
	Date of Request: April 23, 2024 – Item 15.2.3
18.	<p><u>Adoption of Tiered Energy Performance Standards – Nova Scotia Building Code</u></p> <p>*Provincial announcement to incorporate request into updated NS Building Code during 2024 fall sitting.</p> <p>Request that the province adopt and implement the proposed 2020 <i>Nova Scotia Building Code Regulations</i>, and specifically, the 2020 National Energy Code for Canada for Buildings' tiered energy performance standards for the construction of new buildings.</p>
	Date of Request: May 21, 2024 – Item 15.2.3
19.	<p><u>Collection of Construction-Related Fines – Halifax Regional Municipality Charter & Building Code Act</u></p> <p>Request that the province:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Amend the <i>Building Code Act</i> to enable the Municipality to refuse to issue or renew permits to applicants and related companies for outstanding fines; and 2. Amend the <i>Halifax Regional Municipality Charter</i> to enable the Municipality to refuse to issue or renew planning approvals to applicants and related companies for outstanding fines.
	Date of Request: August 20, 2024 – Item 15.1.11
20.	<p><u>Immunity for Constructive Taking Claims – Halifax Regional Municipality Charter</u></p> <p>Request that the province amend the <i>Halifax Regional Municipality Charter</i> to include immunity from constructive taking / de facto expropriation claims.</p>
	Date of Request: October 1, 2024 – Item 15.1.4
21.	<p><u>Extension of Cogswell District Energy System - Halifax Regional Municipality Charter & Halifax Regional Water Commission Act</u></p> <p>Request that the province amend the <i>Halifax Regional Municipality Charter</i> and <i>Halifax Regional Water Commission Act</i>, to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Expand the boundary of the Cogswell District Energy System to include the “non-mandatory” connection zone depicted in Figure 2 of the Halifax Water report dated August 28, 2024;

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	<p>b. Authorize the municipality to pass by-laws with respect to both the mandatory and nonmandatory connection zones; and</p> <p>c. Extend the application of Halifax Water’s statutory limitations of liability to the provision of incidental business, including district energy services.</p>
	<p>Date of Request: October 1, 2024 – Item 18.1</p>

Inactive Requests

Particulars of Request	
1.	<p><u>Heritage Registration Sunset Clause - Heritage Property Act</u></p> <p>Request that the province amend the <i>Heritage Property Act</i> to introduce a sunset clause of 90 days for impact clerical errors have on heritage registration.</p>
	<p>Date of Request: April 22, 2008 – Item 12.3</p>
2.	<p><u>Commercial Tax Options – Halifax Regional Municipality Charter & Assessment Act</u></p> <p><i>*Partially addressed during 2016 fall sitting by Bill 52.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Request that the province make changes to legislation governing the assessment process so that (a) the annual valuation is averaged over a three-year period, or (b) the full assessment roll is updated every 3-4 years as is the current policy in Saskatchewan and Ontario. 2) Request that the province amend the <i>Halifax Regional Municipality Charter</i> to provide Council with greater legislative authority in setting taxes and charges respecting the general tax rate and area rates for both residential and commercial properties. 3) Request to work with Service Nova Scotia and the Property Valuation Services Corporation (PVSC) to change the commercial tax assessment so it is based on 3 past years of assessment rather than one year. This would increase predictability in annual commercial tax bills by evening out increases.

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	<p>Date of Request: November 10, 2015 – Item 14.1</p>
3.	<p><u>Traffic Control Persons for Special Events</u> – <i>Motor Vehicle Act/Traffic Safety Act</i></p> <p>Request that the province:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amend the <i>Motor Vehicle Act</i> to permit traffic control persons to direct the movement of traffic for special events; • Modify the province’s training and accreditation processes to reflect special events-related roles for traffic control persons and temporary workplace signers; and ‘ • Revise the province’s TC Manual to include standards, principles and guidelines applicable to special events-related traffic control scenarios.
	<p>Date of Request: April 25, 2017 – Item 14.3.1</p>
4.	<p><u>Removal of Market Levy Cap</u> – <i>Halifax Regional Municipality Charter</i></p> <p><i>*Partially addressed during 2022 fall sitting by Bill No. 204: levy increased but not removed.</i></p> <p>Request that the province amend the <i>Halifax Regional Municipality Marketing Levy Act</i> (Repealed – Levy provisions now in the HRM Charter) to remove the cap on the marketing levy.</p>
	<p>Date of Request: February 23, 2021 – Item 11.2.1</p>