

**Item No.**  
**Western Region Community Council**  
**February 28, 2011**

**TO:** Chair and Members Western Region Community Council

**SUBMITTED BY:**   
Phillip Townsend, Director, Infrastructure and Asset Management

**DATE:** February 17, 2011

**SUBJECT:** **Herring Cove Breakwater**

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**INFORMATION REPORT**

**ORIGIN**

A report dated January 21, 2011, was before the Community Council.

**MOVED by Councillor Rankin, seconded by Councillor Lund that the Western Region Community Council:**

**Request that HRM commence negotiations to take municipal ownership of the Herring Cove Breakwater; and**

- a) **Negotiate a Management Agreement with the Community of Herring Cove, similar to the Spryfield Lions Rink agreement, in regards to decision making and upkeep of the Breakwater;**
- b) **Provide clarification on the issue of liability if HRM were to take ownership of the Breakwater considering that the Government Wharf would be in close proximity, as well as the federally owned and maintained Navigation Light; and**
- c) **Provide alternative options to financing the maintenance/upkeep of the Breakwater, including exploring contributions from other levels of government and organizations, rather than implementing an area rate at this time.**

**BACKGROUND**

The Herring Cove Breakwater is a federal property which is under the present authority of the Atlantic Pilotage Authority. Due to changes in pilotage craft and procedures, the breakwater is no longer required for the harbour pilot operation and is to be declared surplus. The Herring Cove Advisory Steering Committee has requested that HRM take over ownership of the facility in conjunction with the community.

**DISCUSSION**

Staff of Infrastructure and Asset Management will lead the efforts over the next several months to determine the best means of preserving the breakwater within the community of Herring Cove. The intention is to have a recommendation around direction brought back first to Community Council and then to Regional Council for approval, depending on the results. (Regional Council must approve matters relating to land acquisitions, appropriation of funds, area rates, etc.).

**BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

There are no budget implications at this time.

**FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES/BUSINESS PLAN**

This report complies with the Municipality's Multi-Year Financial Strategy, the approved Operating, Project and Reserve budgets, policies and procedures regarding withdrawals from the utilization of Project and Operating reserves, as well as any relevant legislation.

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

Staff is committed to following Regional Council's guidelines for public consultation and involvement. Staff will work with the Herring Cove community led by the Herring Cove Advisory Steering Committee area Councillor, Pilotage Authority and other federal agencies as a base group to seek a solution. Others will be involved as required.

**ATTACHMENTS**

None

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A copy of this report can be obtained online at <http://www.halifax.ca/council/agendasc/cagenda.html> then choose the appropriate meeting date, or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210, or Fax 490-4208.

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