Quotes from Studies and Reports: The Sandy Lake area is identified as a unique natural area worth protecting

- **1971, April, P.B. Dean, Natural Environment Survey: A Description of the Intrinsic Values in the Natural Environment Around Greater Halifax –Dartmouth**, classified Sandy Lake and Marsh Lake as a Category 1 area: *"...consists of natural assets that are unique in the Halifax-Dartmouth area or important on a regional or provincial scale. This category includes important wildlife habitats and ecologically rich or fragile areas."* p.6 Dean Report

"Since this lake and its surroundings comprise one of the finest landscape units in the metro area, a large parcel of land has been suggested to protect the lake from adverse development and so that public access and use may be assured. This lake was designated Class 3 for recreation in Canada Land Inventory Recreation Capability Survey and as such received the highest rating of any inland site around the metro area." P. 49 Dean Report

"This area should be reserved immediately for public use before it is irreparably damaged by adverse developments … Since the land need not be developed (for park) *immediately, considerable flexibility is available in bargaining with owners. It should be emphasised that this is a prime park land-nature reserve site in an excellent landscape setting."* p. 50

- **1971, MAPC Re-creation Report:** *"...to preserve for urban use and enjoyment an unusually clear fresh water lake as well as a productive marsh habitat for wildlife."* P 57-58

- **1994, Towards the Identification of Environmentally Sensitive Areas for Environmental Management: A case Study in the Sackville River Watershed**, Rhea D. Mahar: Sandy Lake rated second out of forty environmentally sensitive sites in the Sackville River Watershed, between Mount Uniacke and the Bedford Basin.

"Sandy Lake, nearest Bedford is probably the one of the finest lakes in the study area. Rolling hills with mature white pine, hemlock, spruce, maple, birch, and beech overlook the sandy beaches." p. 44

- **2002, DalTech and NSCAD Environmental Planning Departments produced six reports that studied environmental attributes of Sandy Lake related to potential development pressures:**

"Years of minimal development have allowed the lake to maintain its natural quality and most of its wildlife species." P. 33, Sandy Lake Community Profile

"Because the outflow from this watershed joins the Sackville River, which is currently being restored as a spawning area for Atlantic Salmon, water quality in this watershed has an influence beyond its boundaries. The wetlands in this watershed help buffer the Sackville river from flooding, and the Jack Lake bog helps maintain water quality and water levels in Paper mill Lake in Bedford." P.1

"Sandy Lake is a source of drinking water and a recreational area for swimming and fishing." The mature tree stands are aesthetically pleasing and *"may be a seed source to expand forest diversity."* p. 1, Environmental Inventory

- **2015, Off-site Parkland Dedication Request.** *"This land will serve as a positive move to protect and preserve high value ecological lands associated with the Sackville River Corridor."*

- **2018 - ongoing, Forests and Surface Waters of Sandy Lake & Environs (Bedford, Nova Scotia):** Studies and surveys of the SL-SRRP area. Dr. David Patriquin states, *"I view Sandy Lake and Environs as they were viewed in 1971: an asset to all of Halifax municipality, indeed to the whole province. I see it as a very special place, complementing not replicating other major natural assets of Halifax."* www.sandylakebedford.ca

- **2019, Avian and Species at Risk Surveys of the Proposed Sandy Lake-Sackville River Regional Park.** *"Continued maintenance of this area as natural habitat is also essential for maintenance of water quality, aquatic habitat and flood amelioration in Sandy Lake to Sackville River watercourse and for the Sackville River system itself."* p. 13