



Sandy Lake - Sackville River Regional Park Coalition

115 Farmers Dairy Lane, Bedford, Nova Scotia

www.sandylakecoalition.ca

Halifax Regional Plan Review 2020

Kate Green, Regional Policy Program Manager

April 24, 2020

Re: Submission to RP+10 Review from Sandy Lake-Sackville River Regional Park Coalition (SL-SRRP groups listed at bottom of page)

This is our initial submission to the Regional Plan review (RP+10) on behalf of The Sandy Lake-Sackville River-Regional Park Coalition. We expect to send further installments over the next several months, and we request that those additions plus this installment together become our complete submission.

Our comments and requests will include both the specific issues at Jack Lake/Sandy Lake Regional Park (We will refer to this as Sandy Lake – Sackville River Regional Park or SL-SRRP) and also more general requests and suggestions that we see as beneficial to HRM.

The submission has a background segment plus three request sections, each followed by supporting information and appendices in the usual place. We ask:

1. That the SL-SRRP be expanded by additional 1,800 acres (see Map 1). The SL-SRRP boundary be researched in the RP+10 process so that new boundaries based on science are established to encompass all remaining essential watershed to be protected and managed as a regional park for all time. That would mean finding “win-win” solutions that serve both the community and present landowners needs.
2. That the Halifax Green Network Plan (HGNP) be included in its entirety in the RP+10.
3. That the requests in sections A, B, and C be addressed within the RP+10 review and implemented.

The SL-SRRP wishes to thank the city for creating and passing the Halifax Green Network Plan (HGNP) and for amending the Regional Plan’s conservation design development agreement policies to specifically reference the Important and Essential Corridors shown on Map 5, the Green Network Ecology Map, contained in the HGNP.

We also thank you very much for Director Denty’s letter that states the city does not see a need for housing development at Sandy Lake for at least 15 years, for acquiring 160 acres next to Marsh Lake for the park

in 2015, for assurances that the city wants to expand this park, and for adding the Sandy Lake area to the draft 2020 Capital Projects Budget for land acquisition.

We look forward to working with the city on this latest upgrade to the Regional Plan to benefit all of HRM. Thank you for the opportunity to contribute.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED

Karen Robinson, Co-chair of SL-SRRP Coalition Steering Committee and rep. for Sandy Lake Conservation Association

David Patriquin, Co-chair of SL-SRRP Coalition and Steering Committee and rep. for NS Wild Flora Society, Halifax Field Naturalists, Woodens River Environmental Organization/The Bluff Trail

Mary Ellen Donovan, SL-SRRP Coalition Steering Committee and rep. for Friends of Blue Mountain Birch Cove Lakes Society

Karen McKendry, SL-SRRP Coalition Steering Committee and rep. for the Ecology Action Centre

Ray Plourde, SL-SRRP Coalition Steering Committee and rep. for the Ecology Action Centre

Walter Regan, SL-SRRP Coalition Steering Committee and rep. for the Sackville Rivers Association

Harry Ward, SL-SRRP Coalition Steering Committee and rep. for Five Bridges Wilderness Heritage Trust

**cc. Mayor Savage and Council
Kathleen Fralic, Halifax Green Network Plan
Leah Perrin, HRM Planning**

Sandy Lake - Sackville River Regional Park Coalition Member Groups to date:

Sandy Lake Conservation Association

Sackville Rivers Association

Agropur Cooperative Dairy Bedford Plant

Beechville Lakeside Timberlea Rails to Trails

Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society - Nova Scotia Chapter

Canoe/Kayak Nova Scotia

Ecology Action Centre

Five Bridges Wilderness Heritage Trust

Friends of Blue Mountain Birch Cove Lakes Society

Friends of McNabs Island Society

Halifax North West Trails Association

Kingswood Ratepayers Association

Lucasville Community Association

Lucasville Greenway Society

McIntosh Run Watershed Association

Mountain Bike Halifax

Nova Scotia Bird Society

Nova Scotia Salmon Association

Nova Scotia Wild Flora Society

St. Margaret's Bay Stewardship Association

The Halifax Field Naturalists

The Neighbourhood Association of Uplands Park

The Turtle Patrol

Trips By Transit

WRWEO / The Bluff Wilderness Hiking Trail