



Monday, June 8, 2020

## Halifax Regional Plan Review 2020

Five Bridges Wilderness Heritage Trust  
Suite 190, 160- 3650 Hammonds Plains Rd  
Upper Tantallon, N.S.  
B3Z 4R3

Kathleen Fralic  
Engagement Lead  
Planning & Development  
Regionalplan@halifax.ca

Dear Ms. Fralic;

I am writing to you as Chair of the Five Bridges Wilderness Heritage Trust and a Steering Committee Member of the Sandy Lake – Sackville River Regional Park (SL-SRRP) Coalition. The members of Five Bridges Wilderness Heritage Trust support protection of the entire ecological unit, which is the Sandy Lake-Sackville River watershed, as a Regional Park. We also support the SL-SRRP Coalition submission to the RP+10 review. <https://www.sandylakecoalition.ca/rpsubmission>

The Green Network Plan identifies the area as having important connectivity to protect the Chebucto Peninsula. It is also an interdependent unit with the Sackville River. Any further development within the Sandy/Marsh Lake watershed will negatively impact the existing park assets right through to the Sackville River and will affect flooding conditions along the River, including the Bedford floodplains.

We understand that at least one developer has applied within the RP+10, see Schedule D, for Secondary Planning for their lands west of Sandy Lake. This is the same developer who also offered to trade his lands to protect the watershed if the city would find an agreeable trade. We ask that solutions be found and that the area be fully protected within this Regional Plan review.

We ask:

1. That the SL-SRRP be expanded by additional 1,800 acres (see Map 1 of the SL-SRRP submission). That 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 (HGPN) be included in its entirety in the RP+10.
3. That the requests in sections A, B, and C of the SL-SRRP Coalition submission be addressed within the RP+10 review and implemented.

We thank the city for creating and passing the Halifax Green Network Plan (HGPN) and for the HGPN Map 5 amendment to the Regional Plan’s conservation design development agreement.

We also thank the city 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 Director Denty’s letter that states the city does not see a need for housing development at Sandy Lake for at least 15 years. However, we look to the RP+10 to prevent development in this park’s watershed for all time.

Sincerely,

**ORIGINAL SIGNED**

Harry Ward  
Chair, Five Bridges Wilderness Heritage Trust  
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cc: Mayor Savage, Halifax Mayor  
Halifax City Council members,  
Leah Perrin, HRM Planning  
Sandy Lake – Sackville River Regional Park Coalition