

P.O. Box 1749 Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 3A5 Canada

Item No. 14.3.4

Request for Council's Consideration						
X Included on Agenda (Submitted to Municipal Clerk's Office by Noon Thursday)		ed to Munic Office by No		Requ	est from t	he Floor
Date of Council Meeting: September 19, 2017						
Subject: Pollution Control Study for Lake Banook						
Motion for Council to Consider:						
That Regional Council request a staff report for a pollution control study of Lake Banook and Lake Micmac.						
Reason: During the summer of 2017, Birch Cove Beach at Lake Banook was closed for half of the total season, a record 33 days due to high bacteria counts. The number of closure days has been trending upwards over the last three years.						
	2012 2013	3 2014	2015	2016	2017	
# of Days Closed	5 0	6	17	17	33	
Lake Banook is an extremely important lake in HRM, providing opportunities for people to swim in the urban core. The Lake is a major hub for the canoe/kayak and dragonboat communities and it is home to a world-class race course. If the closure trend is a sign of degrading conditions in the Lake and continues, there will be increasing impacts on the Lake's value as a recreational space.						
At present, it's unknown what is causing elevated bacteria levels at Birch Cove and if the problem is present in the wider Lake. A study is needed of Banook and Micmac to assess the health of the two inter-connected lakes. The study should identify the source of the bacteria through testing, its spread in the Lake, and identify what could potentially be done to address the issue in terms of land-use planning, infrastructure, public education etc.						
Outcome Sought: Recommendation report						
Councillor Sam Austin		District 05				