

Request for Council's Consideration		
<p>X Included on Agenda (Submitted to Municipal Clerk's Office by Noon Thursday)</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Added Item (Submitted to Municipal Clerk's Office by Noon Monday)</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Request from the Floor</p>
<p>Date of Council Meeting: April 25, 2017</p>		
<p>Subject: Commemoration of Edward Cornwallis on municipal assets and Reconciliation</p>		
<p>Motion for Council to Consider: That Halifax Regional Council, in the spirit of the Council-adopted Statement of Reconciliation of December 8, 2015, request a staff report with terms of reference and a recommended composition for an expert panel to review and advise Council regarding any changes to the commemoration of Edward Cornwallis on municipal assets, including Cornwallis Park and Cornwallis Street, and recommendations to recognize and commemorate the indigenous history in the lands now known as Halifax Regional Municipality.</p>		
<p>Reason: On December 8, 2015, Halifax Regional Council passed a motion that declared there is a need to take "action to ensure the needs and aspirations of Aboriginal people are fully acknowledged" in our municipality. In this statement, Council said, "We stand together today in committing to a new equal partnership with Aboriginal people in Canada; one based on truth, dignity, and mutual respect." This motion seeks to begin the action necessary to fulfill that promise.</p>		
<p>Recognizing the contentious nature of this issue, an independent body of informed panellists would be ideally placed to review the facts and, indeed, all aspects of the history and context of Edward Cornwallis and his commemoration on municipal assets. As well, it is time to consider the need to recognize the important and long history of the Mi'kmaq, who were here before European contact, and find ways to commemorate that history and the contributions made by indigenous peoples and places in Halifax Regional Municipality.</p>		
<p>Outcome Sought: A staff report that drafts the terms of reference for an inclusive panel of experts. This panel will review all aspects and facts of the situation, and then advise Council regarding the appropriately contextualized historical recognition of Edward Cornwallis on municipal assets and provide recommendations to recognize and commemorate important aspects of indigenous history of the lands now known as the Halifax Regional Municipality. The staff report will also recommend the composition of this team of informed panellists.</p>		
<p><i>Councillor</i> Shawn Cleary</p>		<p><i>District</i> Halifax West Armdale – District 9</p>