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**Item No.**  
**Halifax and West Community Council**  
**March 22, 2017**

**TO:** Chair and Members of the Halifax and West Community Council

**SUBMITTED BY:** **Original Signed by:**  

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Ms. Paula Minnikin, Chair, Point Pleasant Park Advisory Committee

**DATE:** March 3, 2017

**SUBJECT:** **Unauthorized Removal of Vegetation from Point Pleasant Park**  

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**ORIGIN**

Motion from the March 2, 2017 Point Pleasant Park Advisory Committee meeting.

**LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY**

Section 1 of the Terms of Reference of the Point Pleasant Park Advisory Committee which states that the mandate of the Committee includes tasks such as “to advise the municipality on the management and evolution of the Park” and “to advise on park-related by-laws and regulations.”

**RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Halifax and West Community Council request a staff report to consider the creation and implementation of a public awareness campaign regarding the unauthorized removal of vegetation from Point Pleasant Park including the installation of “Do Not Pick the Plants” signs as well as print and online advertising and any other form of advertising and public awareness recommended by staff. It is further recommended that the report consider how the by-laws governing this matter can be enforced.

**BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION**

The Point Pleasant Park Advisory Committee considered possible remedies to the unauthorized removal of vegetation from Point Pleasant Park at a meeting held on March 2, 2017. Several committee members commented that they had witnessed on multiple occasions park users removing large quantities of plants such as lady's slipper orchids. For ecological reasons, the committee passed a motion to request that the Halifax and West Community Council ask for a staff report to address this matter. The committee further suggested that staff consider the motto "Take Nothing; Leave Nothing."

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

No financial implications were identified.

**RISK CONSIDERATION**

No risks identified.

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

The Point Pleasant Park Advisory Committee is an advisory committee to the Halifax and West Community Council and is comprised of ten members of the public and one duly elected member of Regional Council. The meetings are open to the public and the agendas and minutes are posted online in advance of the meeting.

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

The environmental implications to the removal of vegetation from the park are unclear.

**ALTERNATIVES**

The Committee did not provide alternatives.

**ATTACHMENTS**

None.

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A copy of this report can be obtained online at <http://www.halifax.ca/council/agendasc/cagenda.php> then choose the appropriate meeting date, or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 902.490.4210, or Fax 902.490.4208.

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