



PO Box 1749  
Halifax, Nova Scotia  
B3J 3A5 Canada

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Chair, Walter N. Regan, and members of the Halifax Regional Watersheds Board  
CC: Holly Richardson, Acting Energy & Environment Program Manager, Planning & Development  
FROM: Cameron Deacoff, Planning & Development  
DATE: February 16, 2017  
SUBJECT: **Status of Aquatic Weed Harvesting Project – Lake Banook**

Dear Walter & Board Members,

This memorandum is written in response to a request made by the Board in September 2016, for an update on the status of the weed harvesting program in Lake Banook.

In early summer 2016, the Municipality contracted with Natural Ocean Products (“NOP”) to conduct targeted aquatic weed harvesting during selected periods of summer 2016, 2017, and 2018. Weed harvesting was conducted in Lake Banook between July 18 and August 12, 2016, resulting in the removal of approximately 28 metric tons of weeds over the entire period.

The Municipality has also contracted with Stantec Consulting Ltd. (“Stantec”) to conduct aquatic weed harvest monitoring, in collaboration with both HRM and NOP. Stantec’s role is to assess the amount of aquatic weed in the lakes before and following the weed harvest monitoring period to determine both harvesting efficiency and the overall program effectiveness. In 2016, Stantec conducted monitoring operations during the periods of July 4-7 and August 15-24. Stantec’s overall assessment of the mechanical weed harvesting performance is that harvesting is resulting in reduced aquatic vegetation coverage and/or height in targeted areas. Overall, vegetation coverage has declined in Lake Banook from 2014-2016, and in Lake Micmac from 2015-2016.

Currently the Municipality intends to resume aquatic vegetation harvesting and harvest monitoring in 2017 and 2018, subject to the approval of the final business plans and budgets approved by Regional Council in each year.

For further information and project status updates, please refer to the Municipality’s project webpage at this location: <http://www.halifax.ca/cleanwater/banookmicmac.php>.

Best regards,

Cameron Deacoff, PMP, CLP, MMM

---

Planning & Development

Tel: 902.490.1926 Fax: 902.490.5950  
Email: [deacofc@halifax.ca](mailto:deacofc@halifax.ca) [halifax.ca](http://halifax.ca)