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M E M O R A N D U M

TO: **Western Common Wilderness Common Advisory Committee**
FROM: **Gareth Evans, Recreation Planning Specialist – Parks and Recreation**
DATE: **July 18, 2018**
SUBJECT: **Western Common Advisory Committee – Update on Nichols Lake Trail**

During the May 18, 2018 meeting of the Western Common Wilderness Common Advisory Committee, the Committee requested an update on the progress of the Nichols Lake Trail.

HRM Parks and Recreation, Parks Capital Projects are continuing with the construction of the Nichols Lake Trail.

Trail Construction Phasing Summary:

- Phase 1A – Quotation 16-205 issued 2016 (Terra Industrial 600 meters of trail);
- Phase 1B – Tender 17-010 issued 2017 (Cobequid Trail Consulting 1600 meters of trail);
- Phase 1C – Proposed 2018 scope includes issuing and RFP to complete a Bridge Crossing Design over Nichols Run (between Nichols Lake and MacDonald Lake).

As of July 18, 2018:

No construction activity has taken place since the last update (dated May 16, 2018).

During the last Western Common Wilderness Common Advisory Committee Meeting (May 2018), HRM presented four options for Phase 1C for discussion. After considering committee comments and internal evaluations, Option 2 has been selected.

- **Option 2** – Continue the trail as per the master plan and extend northwest. This option requires a significant water crossing (bridge) over Nichols Run (between Nichols Lake and MacDonald Lake). This option would involve the Community Centre as a staging area and result in the trail system to remain closed to the public.

The next step involves issuing a Request for Proposals (RFP) to have a consultant design a bridge crossing. This design will involve site survey work, geotechnical investigation, hydrology analysis, design drawings, permitting and cost estimates. Staff anticipate this work could begin late summer 2018 and near completion January 2019. Any funds remaining would carry forward and contribute towards the new bridge construction costs.