



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

Item No. 15.6.2

Request for Regional Council Consideration		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Included on Agenda (Submitted to Municipal Clerk's Office by Noon Thursday)	<input type="checkbox"/> Added Item (Submitted to Municipal Clerk's Office by Noon Monday)	<input type="checkbox"/> Request from the Floor
Date of Meeting: Tuesday, March 10, 2020		
Subject: Options to Encourage a more Inclusive Public Engagement Process		
Motion for Regional Council to Consider:		
THAT Regional Council request a staff report providing options allowing for a more inclusive public engagement process.		
Reason:		
Our future is dependent on an inclusive society. I have heard comments from residents that it can be difficult to be involved in the public participation process.		
Young parents, particularly mothers may find it difficult to participate in meetings of Council, including Community Council Meetings and Public Meetings. Parents want to be involved, but too often childcare is an obstacle to in-person engagement. It costs parents money to be civically engaged. Child care is a key factor in young parents not running for office, volunteering on Committees of Council or participating in public engagement. Residents with mobility issues may find it difficult to attend meetings in person due to transportation issues.		
HRM should consider providing options allowing for a more inclusive public engagement process.		
Outcome Sought:		
Staff report providing options to encourage a more inclusive public engagement process, including, but not limited to, the possibility of reimbursement for child care for municipal related activities, child care provided by qualified HRM staff at municipal meetings/functions, recorded meetings that are available on the HRM website where residents can participate and provide input at a time that is convenient to them. Report should include costs of options and any HRM liability issues or CRA implications associated with the options. Depending on the option, if any, that is approved by Regional Council, this may include changes to existing Corporate Policies, developing new Corporate Policies and or Administrative Orders.		
<i>Councillor Lorelei Nicoll</i>		<i>District 4 Cole Harbour - Westphal</i>