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Halifax, Nova Scotia
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Item No. 15.3.1
Halifax Regional Council
November 9, 2021

TO: Mayor Savage and Members of Halifax Regional Council

Original Signed

SUBMITTED BY: _____
Mayor Mike Savage, Chair, Executive Standing Committee

DATE: November 1, 2021

SUBJECT: Research Nova Scotia Partnership

ORIGIN

October 25, 2021 meeting of the Executive Standing Committee, Item 12.3.2.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Administrative Order 1, *the Procedures of the Council Administrative Order*, Schedule 6, Executive Standing Committee Terms of Reference, section 5 (e) which states: "The Executive Standing Committee shall provide a forum to assist the CAO in major initiatives regarding:...(iv) administrative policies". Section 9 states: "The Executive Standing Committee shall: (a) have strategic oversight of progress on HRM's Corporate Performance Objectives and priority areas of the Council".

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Halifax Regional Council request a staff report identifying opportunities and funding sources for establishing a research partnership with Research Nova Scotia to develop a coordinated research approach to address municipal challenges.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

The Executive Standing Committee received a request for consideration (Attachment A), at their October 25, 2021 meeting.

The Executive Standing Committee reviewed the request for consideration and approved the recommendation as outlined in this report.

For further discussion on this item, refer to the request for consideration (Attachment A).

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

No financial implications at this time.

RISK CONSIDERATION

No risk considerations were identified.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The agenda and reports of Executive Standing Committee are posted on Halifax.ca, and draft minutes of the meeting will be made available on Halifax.ca within three business days.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

No environmental implications were identified.

ALTERNATIVES

The Executive Standing Committee did not provide alternatives.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A – Request for Consideration received by Executive Standing Committee.

A copy of this report can be obtained by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 902.490.4210, or Fax 902.490.4208.

Report Prepared by: Jill McGillicuddy, Legislative Assistant 902.483.2810

Request for Consideration		
<input type="checkbox"/> Agenda Item (Submitted to Municipal Clerk's Office by Noon at least 5 working days prior to the meeting)	<input type="checkbox"/> Added Item (Submitted to Municipal Clerk's Office by Noon at least one day prior to meeting)	<input type="checkbox"/> Request from the Floor <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of Motion
Council or Committee: Executive Standing Committee		Date of Meeting: October 25, 2021
Subject: Research NS Partnership		
<p>Motion: That Executive Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council request a staff report identifying opportunities and funding sources for establishing a research partnership with Research Nova Scotia to develop a coordinate research approach to address municipal challenges.</p> <p>Reason: HRM has a long history of supporting post-secondary research to address municipal challenges. Some examples include Halifax Water endowment of a chair at Dalhousie, the municipality has for years funded research and data collection in urban forestry, Dalhousie's PDC has supported innovation in municipal planning, like Argyle Street. Other research topics from rural planning, library studies, community, public safety, and policing, have been explored in the last five years.</p> <p>A partnership with Research NS could ensure a connection the outputs of research with the decision-makers and organizations who could best make use of it; this fits with Research Nova Scotia's mandate to support, organize and coordinate the funding of research in and for Nova Scotia. This could take the form of a research institutes, fellowship(s) or research chair(s).</p> <p>The Halifax region is rich in research expertise: with multiple researchers and teaching institutions, including universities and community college campuses, there is considerable talent and knowledge that could be brought to bear on municipal issues. Making more explicit the connection between that research capacity and the operations and policy development could strengthen the city's FDI and workforce attraction value propositions.</p> <p>Research Nova Scotia's provincial mandate may create opportunities to partner with other regions as well, particularly those experiencing similar challenges. Research Nova Scotia can work with HRM staff to help develop an appropriate research agenda, and assist with topic selection.</p> <p>Research Nova Scotia's funding is provincial in origin, and can be stacked with other government funding as appropriate.</p> <p>A coordinated approach to support for research would support the goals of the HRM/post secondary MOU,</p> <p>Outcome Sought: Staff report outlining potential partnership and a process for identifying municipal priorities that align with</p>		
<p><i>Moved Councillor Wayne Mason</i> (Original Signed)</p>		<p><i>District 7</i></p>