

**TO:** Mayor Savage and Members of Halifax Regional Council

**SUBMITTED BY:**

Original Signed by 

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Jacques Dubé, Chief Administrative Officer

**DATE:** November 23, 2021

**SUBJECT:** Appointment of Building Official

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## ORIGIN

Pursuant to the *Nova Scotia Building Code Act*, all Building Officials must be appointed by Regional Council.

## LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

The *Nova Scotia Building Code Act*, Chapter 46 of the Revised Statutes, 1989 Section 5 states that

5 (1) The council of a municipality is responsible for the administration and enforcement of this Act in the municipality.

(2) A building official or building officials shall be appointed by each council to administer and enforce this Act in the municipality.

The *Nova Scotia Building Code Regulations*, article 1.3.1.3, defines a Building Official

1.3.1.3. Specific Definitions

(1) In these regulations the following definitions apply:

“Building Official” means a person appointed as an inspector pursuant to Section 5 of the Act.

Municipal by-law *B-201 Respecting the Building Code* article 2.4.1.1 sets forth the qualification requirements for Building Officials

2.4.1.1. Appointment

(1) A person appointed or eligible to be appointed by a municipality as a *building official* shall

- (a) hold a valid diploma from the Nova Scotia Building Code Training and Certification Board, and
- (b) be a member in good standing of the Nova Scotia Building Officials Association.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that Halifax Regional Council appoint Abbas Yousefi as a Building Official, pursuant to Section 5(2) of the Nova Scotia Building Code Act. This appointment is effective for the duration of his assignment to the duties of a Building Official with Halifax Regional Municipality.

### **BACKGROUND**

Building Officials are required to administer and enforce provisions of the Nova Scotia Building Code Act and Regulations on behalf of HRM. Abbas Yousefi was the successful applicant in a recent competition for a vacant Building Official 1 position. Mr. Yousefi meets the qualifications of the job description in addition to any Provincial requirements. The Nova Scotia Building Code Act requires that Building Officials be appointed by Regional Council.

### **DISCUSSION**

Building Officials are primarily responsible for the delivery of two programs: Construction Approvals and Maintenance of Residential Occupancies. Building Officials ensure consistent interpretation and application of the various by-laws, administrative orders and regulations to buildings and development in co-ordination with other HRM staff in the development approvals process.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no budget implications. This is to fill a budgeted and vacant position.

### **RISK CONSIDERATION**

There is no significant risk associated with this recommendation as this a current employee qualified to fill the position to which he is being appointed.

### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

No community engagement is required.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

No environmental implications were identified.

### **ALTERNATIVES**

No alternatives applicable as a Council appointment is required for Building Officials to have the necessary authority to enforce compliance to applicable codes, and by-laws.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

No attachments.

A copy of this report can be obtained online at [halifax.ca](http://halifax.ca) or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 902.490.4210.

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