



International Partnerships Update

Proposed Economic Partnership with
Portsmouth, England

Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee

December 8, 2021

HALIFAX

HALIFAX 25
PARTNERSHIP YEARS
GROWING HALIFAX TOGETHER

HRM's Partnerships Work

- HRM and other municipalities forge partnerships to forge cultural links, solve problems, deliver services, and forge business connections
- Guided by Administrative Order 2014-003-Gov.
- HRM has three types of partnerships:
 - 1. Economic Partnership**
 - Managed by the Halifax Partnership
 - 2. Friendship Partnership**
 - Hakodate (Japan)(1982), Campeche (Mexico)(1998), Gdynia (Poland)(2019), Norfolk VA (2006)
 - 3. Historic Partnership**
 - Calderdale (Halifax)(UK)(1987), Sherbrooke (Quebec)(1957), Freetown (Sierra Leone)(1994)

Economic Partnerships

- Managed by the Halifax Partnership
- Formal Economic Partnerships:
 - Aberdeen (Scotland) (2013)
 - Zhuhai (China) (2018)
- Policy stipulates Council will manage no more than five formal economic partnerships at any given time.

Proposed Economic Partnership: Portsmouth, UK - Background

- Portsmouth, UK
- Solent Region (Portsmouth and Southampton)
 - Population -- 1,250,000
 - Major ports along English Channel – annual cargo handling of 18 million tons
 - Portsmouth (pop. 238K) – Royal Navy, BAE Systems
 - Southampton (pop. 254K) – marine and logistics, health, education, finance sectors
 - Economic Development Organization – Solent Local Enterprise Partnership



Portsmouth Partnership Rationale

- Similar population (238K) and home to major airports, ports, and industries
- Positive GDP outlook
- Within a county in which the federal government has a relationship
- Establishes a connection to the broader southern UK
- Aligns with the Province of Nova Scotia's focus on growing ocean technology sector and post-Brexit business opportunities

HRM-Portsmouth Ties (2021)

- Halifax-Portsmouth Virtual Trade Mission
- Formal Request from Portsmouth City Council Leader Jackson
- Portsmouth City Council authorizes a formal “sister city” link be established

Questions