



P.O. Box 1749  
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**Item No. 7**  
**Halifax Regional Council**  
**May 3, 2022**

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

**SUBMITTED BY:** Original Signed  
Caroline Blair-Smith, Acting Chief Administrative Officer

**DATE:** March 1, 2022

**SUBJECT:** **Environmental Concerns at The Puddle, Queensland**

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### **INFORMATION REPORT**

#### **ORIGIN**

September 14, 2021 Halifax Regional Council motion (Item 9.2.1):

MOVED by Councillor Lovelace, seconded by Councillor Kent

THAT Halifax Regional Council request a staff report on the ongoing environmental concerns and silt breaches at The Puddle in Queensland caused by Highway 103 twinning project.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED

#### **LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY**

*Halifax Regional Municipality Charter, 2008 SNS c 39: 7A* The purposes of the Municipality are to (a) provide good government; (b) provide services, facilities and other things that, in the opinion of the Council, are necessary or desirable for all or part of the Municipality; (c) develop and maintain safe and viable communities

#### **BACKGROUND**

The Puddle at Queensland is a body of water with both tidal and freshwater influences. The Puddle is fed by Stillwater Brook and has tidal influences of saltwater from St. Margret's Bay. The brackish water environment is home to many marine species. HRM has been informed by local residents of their environmental concerns from the twinning of Highway 103, with photographs and videos of silt spills into Stillwater Brook which feeds into The Puddle.

### **DISCUSSION**

The twinning of Highway 103 is a provincial construction project, and the silt spills have the potential to impact Stillwater Brook which feeds into The Puddle, both of which are waterways under provincial jurisdiction. Staff have been informed that the community petition has already been forwarded to the Province of Nova Scotia.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no financial implications associated with this recommendation.

### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

HRM did not engage the community for this report, however the issue was brought forward to the Deputy Mayor from their constituents.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

No attachments.

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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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