



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

Item No. 15.3.2

Request for Council's 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 Council Meeting: 21 February 2023		
Subject: Halifax Public Library Collection Expansion Strategy		
Motion for Council to Consider: The Halifax Regional Council direct the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) to provide a staff report to create a strategy to bring the Halifax Public Libraries collection to the national standard working with the Halifax Public Libraries Chief Executive Officer.		
Reason: Our Libraries are a vital community resource, not only as a safe and inclusive space, but also as source for information and entertainment. Halifax Public Libraries are world class for their spaces, community outreach and new programming, however with population growth and increased costs of materials, our collection has fallen well below the national average per capita. Halifax Public Libraries' current holdings per capita is 1.77; the most recent Canadian median reported (from 2019) is 2.1. The limited size and composition of the library materials available to residents has been a concern for several years. The demand for electronic loans has increased 95% over the past 5 years, and they foresee this demand continue to grow resulting in extensive wait times. It is anticipated with the rate of inflation on library materials and the increase in overall population, the library collection will not meet the needs of the community. By creating a proactive strategy to increase our collection we can find ways to efficiently address this growing concern and ensure our libraries continue to be a reliable and relevant resource for our community.		
Outcome Sought: Staff report		
<i>Councillor</i> Tony Mancini	<i>District</i> 6	