



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

Item No. 15.4.4

Request for Halifax Regional 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: May 7, 2024		
Subject: Wildfire Prevention		
Motion for Council to Consider: That Regional Council direct the CAO to prepare a staff report with recommendations for wildfire prevention through an annual ban on open fires in HRM during the wildfire risk season (March 15 to October 15) as well as appropriate enforcement and reporting measures for the ban.		
Reason: HRM is experiencing another dry spring with elevated risk of wildfire. In recognition that climate and weather patterns are changing, often with reduced snow in winter and unpredictable rainfall in spring, HRM should take all steps possible to prevent a repeat of the devastating wildfires of 2023. An outright ban may be simpler to enforce and easier to communicate to the public than burn restrictions that vary from day to day.		
Outcome Sought: A 24/7 ban on open fires in HRM between March 15 and October 15. Along with a more extensive ban on open fires, HRM should have a more proactive approach to enforcement including annual reporting to Regional Council of the number of wildfires managed and number and type of fines issued.		
Councillor <i>Kathryn Morse</i>		<i>District 10</i>