

# HALIFAX

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**Item No. 15.1.1**  
**Halifax Regional Council**  
**November 22, 2022**

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

Original Signed by 

**SUBMITTED BY:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Jacques Dubé, Chief Administrative Officer

**DATE:** September 29, 2022

**SUBJECT:** **Increase to Contract – PO 2070837986 for Environmental Testing for the  
Halifax Commons Aquatic Project**

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## **ORIGIN**

This report originates from a need to increase the contract beyond 20% and \$20,000 of its original value.

## **LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY**

The Municipality may spend money for municipal purposes in accordance with section 79A of the *Halifax Regional Municipality Charter*.

The recommended contract award complies with all of the pre-requisites for awarding contracts as set out in section 26 of Administrative Order 2020-004-ADM, the *Procurement Policy*.

The recommendation complies with all the pre-requisites for Contract Amendment as set out in section 32 of the Administrative Order 2020-004-ADM, the *Procurement Administrative Order*.

Section 32, Section 7 of the *Procurement Administrative Order* provides that Halifax Regional Council can approve cumulative contract amendments for any amount.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that Halifax Regional Council approve an increase to the contract with Strum Environmental Ltd. (PO 2070837986) in the amount of \$30,000 (net HST included) with funding from CP200002 Halifax Common Upgrades as outlined in the Financial Implications section of this report.

## **BACKGROUND**

On December 10, 2019, Halifax Regional Council approved capital funding for the replacement of the Halifax Common pool, splashpad, playground, and related facilities.

The Central Common has been extensively changed and infilled as noted in the 2018 Archaeological Resource Impact Assessment report, the "...extensive use of the Common as a 19<sup>th</sup> century dumping ground, particularly in the area of the Central Common...". It is thought the material dumped, which may include debris from the Halifax Explosion, has contributed to the soil contamination in this area.

On April 30, 2020, Strum Environmental Ltd. were awarded PO 2070837986 to perform environmental testing of the Halifax Commons in preparation of the Halifax Commons Aquatic Project. The consultant firm was chosen from the Consulting Roster List created from RFQ 13-082.

The environmental testing revealed soil contamination greater levels than the provincial guidelines allow. As per provincial guidelines, further testing is required to determine the extent of the contamination.

On September 30, 2020, this purchase order was increased by \$12,239 for additional testing.

On December 7, 2020, Halifax Regional Council approved an increase of \$31,691 (net HST included) for additional testing.

The current request is for \$30,000 (net HST included) and includes a contingency amount of \$25,000 (net HST included) as additional on-site testing may be required from the ongoing construction work.

## **DISCUSSION**

Staff recommends an increase to Strum Environmental Ltd. (PO 2070837986) for changes to the contracted scope of work in the amount of \$30,000.00 (net HST included). A summary of the changes are as follows:

PO Award (net HST included)	\$ 15,351
PO increases approved to date	\$ 43,930
<b>Request for Increase (net HST included)</b>	<b><u>\$ 30,000</u></b>
New Contract Value (net HST included)	\$ 89,281

The total amount of changes (approved and pending) is \$73,930.00 (net HST included), which represents a cumulative increase of 482% to the original contract value of \$15,351.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Funding in the amount of \$ 30,000 (net HST included) is available from Project No. CP200002 - Halifax Common Upgrades. The budget availability has been confirmed by Finance.

Budget Summary: Project Account No. CP200002 - Halifax Common Upgrades

Cumulative Unspent Budget	\$ 42,842
<b><u>Less: Increase to PO 2070837986*</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 30,000</u></b>
Balance	\$ 12,842

The balance of funds will be used for further design and construction of the Halifax Commons Aquatic Project.

### **RISK CONSIDERATION**

There are no significant risks associated with the recommendation in this report. To reach this conclusion, consideration was given to financial, legal and compliance, and service delivery risks.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

Contaminated soils will be reused on the site and/or removed to an approved disposal facility, in accordance with Nova Scotia provincial environmental regulations.

### **SOCIAL VALUE**

No social value was identified.

### **ALTERNATIVES**

Council could choose not to approve the recommendations in this report. However, this work is required to comply with Nova Scotia provincial environmental regulations.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

None.

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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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