

Press Release

For Immediate Release: June 30, 2016

Community Monitoring Committee Hires Reg Rankin as Executive Director

Retiring Councillor Will Have Continued Role to Protect Otter Lake Area Community

Halifax, Nova Scotia: Reg Rankin will be following up 25 years on HRM Council by assuming the position of Executive Director of the Otter Lake Community Monitoring Committee in November.

The Community Monitoring Committee (CMC) did not have to look far for a replacement for Ken Meech, the outgoing Executive Director who left the position on June 15th. By virtue of being the local Councillor for the area, Rankin has been a member of the landfill monitoring committee since it was formed in 1999.

The CMC met with Rankin in May to discuss the possibility of him taking on the position of Executive Director to succeed Meech, who had given notice of his intention to leave to pursue other opportunities. After discussions and an agreement in principle, Rankin announced that he would not seek re-election to Council, and yesterday he accepted a formal offer for the position.

Continuity was an important factor in the decision to offer the job to Rankin, said CMC Chair John Cascadden. "Reg has been working on the Otter Lake file since before the landfill site was selected 20 years ago. No one has more knowledge of the landfill operations, the community, the landfill operator, and of course the municipality. We are pleased that he will continue to work with us to protect the local community and environment."

Cascadden further explained that CMC Chair Jack Mitchell, who had also been a member of the committee since its inception, recently retired. "With operational changes at Otter Lake, HRM's new contract with the landfill operator, and a new person in the position of CMC Chair, we feel that Reg will provide stability during this time of change."

First up for Rankin will be to steer the Community Monitoring Committee through some significant changes to its operation, and how it relates to the landfill operator, HRM and the Province. "We have a new strategic plan that has a vision of better communication with the members of the affected communities, improved relations with HRM Council and staff, and expanded monitoring of the landfill operations," said Rankin. "I look forward to helping implement the strategy when I take the position on November 1st, and am humbled by the CMC's confidence in me."

About the Community Monitoring Committee: Established in 1999 by Halifax Regional Municipality through an agreement with the local community, the Community Monitoring Committee has an arms-length relationship with HRM Council, and is tasked with monitoring the operation of the Otter Lake Landfill. It represents the interests of the local communities (Beechville, Lakeside, Timberlea and Prospect Road) and communicates with residents about any operational changes or issues. The existence of a Community Monitoring Committee is a requirement of the Industrial Permit for the operation of the landfill.

- 30 -

Contact: Ken Donnelly

Tel: (902)223-6123

Email: info@otterlakecmc.ca

Website: www.otterlakecmc.ca