

April 23, 2018

RE: Lunenburg Harbour Health Advisory Group & Stakeholder Engagement Process

Dear Stakeholder;

As you may be aware, the Town of Lunenburg experienced a lot of local, regional, and national attention last fall focused on the health of Lunenburg Harbour. Much of this publicity was not positive for the town and was also not based on accurate facts or clear information. As such, the Town of Lunenburg reached out to Bluenose Coastal Action Foundation (Coastal Action) to ask for help in addressing the issues surrounding the health of the harbour. An initial public meeting was held at the fire hall on November 9, 2017, to provide accurate information from a variety of sources on different issues affecting the health of the harbour. Coastal Action provided general information on what constitutes a healthy harbour and factors that can negatively impact a harbour. Staff from the engineering firm, CBCL, provided a very detailed presentation about the proposed bio-filter project that has been presented as the chosen solution for the odour issues coming from the Town's Wastewater Treatment facility. Town of Lunenburg staff provided a summary of how the wastewater treatment facility operates and the legal requirements that must be maintained to meet the provincial wastewater regulations. An engineer with Nova Scotia Environment was also on hand to address any questions related to the provincial legal requirements around wastewater management. By the end of the evening, the people that attended were more aware of the issues surrounding harbour health and had a better appreciation and understanding of the work that had either been done or was underway by the Town to address the sewage treatment issues.

As a follow up to the public meeting, the Town of Lunenburg committed to hiring Coastal Action to initiate a stakeholder engagement process to continue to work towards addressing the issue of the health of Lunenburg Harbour. The purpose of this engagement process is to consult with government, business/industry, residents, etc. with a stake in improving the health of the harbour to discuss potential threats and determine feasible solutions for improvement. A draft Terms of Reference for the proposed Lunenburg Harbour Health Advisory Group are attached with more details.

Coastal Action would like to invite you, or a representative from your organization, to participate in the stakeholder engagement process. We are accepting 'Invitation to Serve' applications as outlined in the attached Terms of Reference, see attached application form, with an application deadline of May 11, 2018. We intend to hold our first meeting in May, date yet to be determined, but likely sometime the week of either May 21 or May 28. If you should have any questions, or would like to discuss this invitation further, please do not hesitate to contact me via telephone at 902-634-9977, email at brooke@coastalaction.org, or stop by the Coastal Action office at 37 Tannery Road, Lunenburg (office hours 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM, Monday to Friday). We look forward to working with you to improve the health of our harbour. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Brooke Nodding
Executive Director