

***POCKWOCK LAKE WATERSHED
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
TERMS OF REFERENCE***

Mandate:

These Terms of Reference shall serve to constitute the Pockwock Lake Watershed Management Committee as an advisory group to the Halifax Regional Water Commission (Halifax Water), the Province of Nova Scotia, and the stakeholders in the management of the Pockwock Watershed.

General:

1. The Committee will review and make recommendations in a timely manner, to the Minister of Environment and Halifax Water, on all activities or policy issues affecting water quality, flows, levels, storm water, development and forest management in the Pockwock Watershed, as requested by Halifax Water, the Province of Nova Scotia and stakeholders in the area.
2. The Committee may, from time to time, request individuals or groups to make representation to the Committee on matters affecting the watershed.
3. The Committee will review and comment on water quality and monitoring programs and other studies related to the watershed. All water quality information available from member agencies shall be made available to the Committee.
4. The Committee will maintain liaison with government agencies not represented on the Committee with regard to matters affecting the watershed.
5. The Committee will develop information and education programs about watershed management and protection for local residents, landowners and other users of watershed lands.

Designation of Watershed as "Protected Water Area"

6. Under the Environment Act, the province has designated a portion of the Pockwock Watershed as a Protected Water Area. The Protected Water Area is described and regulated under the *Pockwock Lake Watershed Protected Water Area Designation and Regulations*.
7. Watershed protection regulations for the Pockwock Lake Watershed Protected Water Area have been approved by the Minister of the Environment pursuant to the designation.
8. The Committee will provide advice and recommendations to the Waterworks Operator who is responsible, to ensure that terms and responsibilities related to the designated Pockwock Lake Watershed Protected Water Area and regulations will be followed.

Membership and Meetings:

9. The Committee shall be comprised of representatives from:
 - (2) Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources
 - (1) Municipality of East Hants
 - (2) Halifax Water
 - (1) Mount Uniacke Community Representative
 - (2) Nova Scotia Environment
10. Community representatives serving on the committee will serve a two year term. It is recommended that all other agencies of the committee serve a minimum two year term.
11. Upon expiration of terms, for members representing identifiable groups or organizations, that member will be asked by the Committee to have their organization nominate a member for the subsequent term. Where that is not possible, Halifax Water will contact the organization to request an appointment. For members not representing an identifiable organization; Halifax Water to write all landowners in the area of interest affected by the Pockwock Lake Watershed seeking volunteers for the Committee. If new volunteers come forward, the Committee will seek non-professional membership through a balloting process.
12. The Chair and Vice-Chair of the Committee shall be appointed by the membership at the meeting closest to April 1st.
13. Bodies appointing representatives may name an alternate. Alternates may attend all meetings as observers and may vote when the appointed representative is absent.
14. Administrative support shall be provided by Halifax Water.
15. The Committee shall endeavor to conduct business by consensus, but should voting be necessary, all motions will require support from a majority of the members present. Five voting members will constitute a quorum. In the event there is not a quorum, an Information Meeting will be held.
16. The Committee shall meet as necessary, but no less than two times a year. Generally in the spring and fall.
17. The Committee shall be empowered to amend its Terms of Reference by motion, with the approval of the Waterworks Operator.
18. The Committee shall prepare an annual report of its activities to be distributed to all bodies represented on the Committee, and to other interested parties.
19. The Chair shall act as spokesperson.

Committee Review Process:

20. The Committee will review and forward recommendations to the Waterworks Operator for approval within thirty (30) days following receipt of all submissions and requests pertaining to changes in land use activities within the Pockwock Lake Watershed Protected Water Area, and as defined in the Protected Water Area regulations.

Land Development:

21. Municipality of East Hants (MEH) Planning and Development department will circulate to the Committee, where relevant, proposed development agreement applications and East Hants Official Community Plan amendments. The Watershed Management Committee comments will be summarized in reports to the Planning Advisory Committee.