



CANOE KAYAK NOVA SCOTIA

November 13th, 2014

Harbour East Marine Drive Community Council
Dartmouth, Nova Scotia

Dear members of Harbour East Marine Drive Community Council,

Canoe Kayak Nova Scotia is the provincial non-profit responsible for recreational paddling in Nova Scotia. We are affiliated with the national bodies Canoe Kayak Canada and Paddle Canada encompassing both competitive and recreational paddling nation wide. Our mandate is to advocate for paddling opportunities, as well as champion access and protection of our provincial waterways and coastlines.

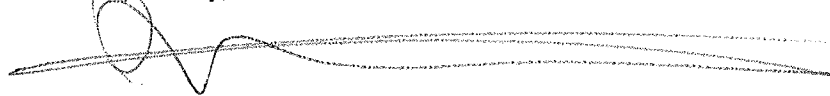
Day-lighting of the Sawmill River would improve water quality, provide fish spawning habitat and provide numerous economic opportunities including the option to investigate the creation of an in-town whitewater feature. Other communities around Canada have realized the recreational and competitive training potential of accessible moving water. The Bow River in Calgary, the Yukon river in Whitehorse and the Habitat 67 river feature in Montreal are all existing examples of capitalizing on accessible waterways to enhance the community. Paddle Canada is currently working with the Canadian Wildlife Federation on a similar project in Ottawa.

There are a lot of questions that would need to be answered in any plan to daylight the Sawmill river, the executive board of Canoe Kayak Nova Scotia respectfully asks that the Harbour East Marine Drive Community Council would consider committing to a full investigation of day-lighting of the Sawmill River, with the option to also investigate the creation of a small whitewater park on the newly day-lighted section.

The CKNS board, or our members, will assist in securing grants and funding for this project should the Council decide to pursue it. We have secured verbal support from Paddle Canada and Canoe Kayak Canada already and are hoping to engage the local canoe clubs in Banook Lake as well. A small moving water section would provide them with the environment needed for competitive slalom kayaking training, an opportunity that does not currently exist in Nova Scotia.

Thank you for considering this request,

Respectfully,



Karl Vollmer
President
Canoe Kayak Nova Scotia

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