

## **Resolution 3A**

### **HERITAGE PROPERTY PROTECTION (PASSED)**

⇒ Halifax Regional Municipality

**WHEREAS** protecting heritage properties is an important part of preserving the history and character of Nova Scotian communities; and

**WHEREAS** giving municipalities the tools to protect their history while facilitating development is also important;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities call upon the Province to protect heritage registrations from procedural/clerical errors.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

*Nova Scotia has some of the oldest and most historic communities in North America. Its heritage and unique character is one of its greatest appeals. Nova Scotian communities have been able to retain much of their historic character through legislation dating back several decades that strengthened protection of heritage properties.*

*Downtown Halifax is one of the oldest urban centres in Canada. Its unique urban core is one of its main strengths in attracting people. HRM wishes to build on existing legislation around heritage properties by strengthening protection of registered municipal heritage properties from demolition, as per the legislative request Halifax Regional Council made of the Province in 2008, by protecting heritage registrations from procedural/clerical errors.*

Forwarded to:

*Minister of the Department of Communities, Culture & Heritage*

#### **RESPONSE:**

*On behalf of our department, I would like to thank you for your letter of November 21, 2011 advising us regarding resolutions put forward by your members at this year's conference. I am pleased to note the interest that your members have with regards to funding for arts and culture and look forward to reading the results of your explorations.*

*With regards to your resolution 3A, I have forwarded your request to staff in our department to seek advice on how best to respond. I expect we will provide a formal reply to your office in the near future.*

*The Honourable David A. Wilson*

*Minister*

*December 19, 2011*

**FOLLOW UP RESPONSE:**

*Thank you for your letter of June 13, 2012 in follow-up to Minister Wilson's letter of February 9, 2012.*

*As described in your letter, the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities (UNSM) requests that amendments be made to the Heritage Property Act to support a resolution on heritage property registration passed at the 2011 UNSM Annual Conference. Specifically, that Section 24 of the Act be amended to address how clerical or technical errors could be handled.*

*Before consideration to your request is provided, I will forward the UNSM's proposed wording for Sections 24A and 24B to Mr. Kevin Barrett, Coordinator, Heritage Property Program, for review. Should you have any questions, please contact him directly at 902-424-6396.*

*The Honourable Leonard Preyra  
Minister  
July 6, 2012*

**FOLLOW UP RESPONSE:**

*Thank you for your letter of June 4, 2013, requesting an update on the status of my consideration of amendments to Section 24 of the Heritage Property Act to address clerical and technical errors. In my letter of August 20, 2012 to your predecessor, I explained that further investigation would be required before such significant policy change could be considered.*

*It is possible that clerical and technical errors may affect many municipal properties in Nova Scotia that are assumed to be registered under the Act. To better determine the true scope of this issue, my staff are investigating the development of a database to identify all properties properly registered under the Act. Since this project will engage all municipalities in Nova Scotia, my staff will schedule a meeting with the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities to discuss the database in more detail.*

*Meanwhile, I would like to thank the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities for its work in preserving built heritage in Nova Scotia. Should you have any questions, please contact Mr. Kevin Barrett, Coordinator of the Heritage Property Program, directly at 902-424-6396.*

*The Honourable Leonard Preyra  
Minister  
June 17, 2013*