

Resolution 6A

ECOTRUST FUNDING (PASSED)

⇒ Halifax Regional Municipality

WHEREAS the EcoNova Scotia Municipal Program provided Nova Scotia Municipalities with \$7.9 million to help municipalities reduce emissions and build capacity for further reductions in the future; and

WHEREAS the program is expected to reduce municipal greenhouse gas emissions by 12,020 tonnes per year; and

WHEREAS the program initiated economic progress in the municipal green economies;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities applaud the Province of Nova Scotia for the effectiveness of this program; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities request that the Province continue funding programs for incubating Municipal progress on Climate Change Mitigation.

BACKGROUND:

As per the Eco Nova Scotia Final Report, which can be seen at the link at the bottom, HRM received approximately \$3 million of funding from the program to leverage projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and save money, This fund was key to incubating progress in the Green Economy. Further programs would help some of the fledgling renewable industries develop sustainable capacity.

Forwarded to:
Minister of the Department of Energy

RESPONSE:

Thank you for your November 21, 2011, letter to the Honourable Charlie Parker, Minister of Energy, regarding the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities's (UNSM) resolution on ecoNova Scotia funding. Minister Parker has referred your enquiry to me, as Nova Scotia Environment (NSE) was the department responsible for the ecoNova Scotia program.

The ecoNova Scotia for Clean Air and Climate Change program was successfully completed on March 31, 2011. A total of 140 projects and programs received funding, including 106 projects across the province through the Municipal Program. As noted in your resolution, it is estimated that these

municipal projects will result in a reduction of over 12,000 tonnes of greenhouse gases and over 50,000 kilograms of air pollutants annually by 2020.

Although administered by the Nova Scotia Government, the funding for ecoNova Scotia was provided by the Government of Canada. The Province of Nova Scotia has made requests to the federal government to continue to provide funding for these worthwhile projects that reduce greenhouse gases and air pollutants.

Thank you for passing this resolution and recognizing the economic and environmental importance of supporting projects that reduce emissions.

*The Honourable Sterling Belliveau
Minister*

December 13, 2011