

Resolution 10A

INVASIVE SPECIES (PASSED)

⇒ Halifax Regional Municipality

WHEREAS municipalities are facing substantial social, economic, health and environmental challenges from new and expanding infestations of invasive species; and

WHEREAS the Province of Nova Scotia has legislative authority and program delivery related to Health, Natural Resources, Environment and Economic Development; and

WHEREAS the Government of Canada has identified Provincial responsibility in the Canadian Food and Inspection Agency document: "An Alien Invasive Species Strategy for Canada";

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the UNSM request that the Province of Nova Scotia initiate an intergovernmental and interdepartmental Invasive Species Strategy for Nova Scotia.

BACKGROUND:

Recent years have brought substantial pressures to municipalities in responding to community concerns related to increased impact from invasive species. In the Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM) this includes: Black Legged Ticks, European Fire Ants, Giant Hogweed, Floating Yellow Hearts, and Longhorn Beetles.

These challenges cross governmental and departmental boundaries. Residents and municipalities need help dealing with these pressures.

Forwarded to:
Minister of the Department of Environment

RESPONSE:

The Path We Share: A Natural Resources Strategy for Nova Scotia 2011-2020 establishes the priority and need for better tools to address the emerging issue of Invasive Alien Species as part of an improved approach to biodiversity conservation and sustainable use in the province. As part of the implementation of the Strategy, the department will work with other partners to identify and address tools and the resources required to manage the threat of Invasive Alien Species. To date, there has not been a commitment to develop a provincial Invasive Alien Species strategy. However, this will be discussed as part of our Strategy implementation work. We will include the municipalities in this process when it is underway.

*The Honourable Charlie Parker
Minister
January 10, 2012*