



CMC Chair's Briefing – New Free Booklet Explains Odour From Landfill Gas

LANDFILL GAS

Ever wonder how bad odour actually forms in a landfill, and how it is controlled? The Otter Lake Community Monitoring Committee (CMC) has the answers in a new booklet called *Phew! What's that Smell? A Primer on Landfill Gas*.

The eight-page brochure (*pictured right*) is free to download from our website: OtterLakeCMC.ca, under *News > Publications*.

After last year's short-lived incidents of bad odour from the Otter Lake Landfill facility, the CMC commissioned its environmental consultant, **Scott Morash**, to explain in laymen's language the phenomenon of landfill gas. The booklet should help residents better understand what is involved in managing the Otter Lake landfill.



A second CMC publication is in development on landfill leachate. The term refers to the contaminated liquid that develops when rainwater seeps through solid waste at a disposal site, accumulates contaminants, and moves into pockets beneath the surface. Stay tuned.

BUDGET

CMC's 2024-2025 budget request to the HRM is for \$79,000, the same as last year, but down from the \$90,000 allocation given to CMC in previous years, dating from 2016. While \$79,000 may seem large for a small organization, in practice it is a currently adequate but relatively modest sum for monitoring activities at the landfill site on behalf of the communities within its five km. radius.

The CMC has no offices or permanent staff. Environmental and Communications consultants are part time as is our administrator and a liaison assistant who works with the chair to keep tabs on government developments in HRM and the province that control the landfill's operations, and on activity at the landfill site, which Mirror Nova Scotia manages.

The budget document can be found among the supporting material posted on the CMC website in connection with the Jan.18 2024 meeting.

NEW MEMBERS

In January the CMC found itself operating with only seven members, down three from its full complement of 10. The terms of all three of the HRM citizen-at-large appointees had ended at roughly about the same time.

Quick action by HRM staff, however, should have the CMC restored to full strength by the time this report is published. At the time of writing, three HRM citizen representatives-at-large, and two alternates had been selected by the HRM Review Board convened by HRM staff, with participation by the CMC's chair and administrator. The candidates were subject to HRM Council's confirmation process, expected to be completed in February.

Linda MacKay
Linda MacKay
CMC Chair

PUBLIC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS – THURSDAY, APRIL 18



6:30 p.m. April 18

Where: The Links, Brunello Clubhouse, Pavilion Building

The Halifax-Waste Resource Society* AGM will begin at 6:30 p.m. Voting is restricted to members—anyone over age 18 who pays the \$5.00 fee. The society will issue its annual report and elect a board of directors. The public is welcome to attend.

The Community Monitoring Committee AGM will follow at 7:15 p.m. Those in attendance from the public will have an opportunity to question the CMC membership.

*The Halifax Waste-Resource Society is a citizen organization that works with representatives of HRM, through the Community Monitoring Committee, to monitor the HRM Solid Waste Program at the Otter Lake Landfill. See Otterlakecmc.ca for more information.

Linda MacKay, Chair



7:15 p.m. April 18