

AGENDA,
Annual General Meeting, Community Monitoring Committee
 6:30 p.m., Thursday, July 23, 2026
 The Clubhouse Boardroom, The Links at Brunello, Timberlea

	Agenda Item	Action	Materials Included
	Call to Order		
1.0	Approval of the agenda with/without amendments	Decision	• Agenda
2.0	Approval of the March 25, 2026 minutes with/without amendments	Decision	• Minutes of the March 25, 2026 meeting
3.0	Members of the public in attendance are invited to address the CMC with comments, questions, or submissions	Information/ Discussion	
4.0	Chair welcomes newest member to the CMC, Chile Frank-Udemgba	The Chair	• Introduction
5.0	Report by CMC's Liaison Assistant re the integrity of the HRM's figures submitted to the Department of Environment and Climate Change in support of the current compliance plan	Discussion	• Otter Lake Compostable Waste Annual Percentage Calculations
6.0	HRM's intentions to seek provincial permission to remove a third-party auditor from future performance audits, to exchange the current 10% target on organic waste going into the landfill for a measurement in line with HRM's landfill	Discussion re CMC and HRM perspectives and MOU implications	• Letter to Sharon Betts, June 30, 2026, from Reg Rankin

	waste diversion program, and possibly to seek shutdown and removal of the front-end processor and waste stabilization facility		
7.0	Determination by the CMC membership as to whether an in camera meeting should follow immediately after adjournment of the regular meeting	Decision	
8.0	Adjournment		
At the discretion of the CMC members, an in camera meeting may follow immediately upon the adjournment of the regular meeting.			

Introducing Chile Frank-Udemgba BSc, PSM™ , PMP®

Chile Frank-Udemgba is the newest member of CMC, and the July 23 meeting will be her first with us. We received notification of her appointment from HRM on May 6, 2026, following completion of their selection process for volunteer members to HRM-associated boards and committees. Her term runs until Nov.30, 2027 — the same end-date shared by our other HRM appointees: Christa Schnare and Tekena Warikubu.

She replaces Hailey MacKinnon, the HRM appointee who you will recall completed her term with us in November 2025.

Chile is a project manager and product ownership analyst. Currently she works for Management and Procurement Support Services, Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture, where she is involved in infrastructure upgrades to provincially owned fish hatcheries.

I trust you will make her welcome.

Betsy Chambers
Administrator CMC
July 08, 2026

Grant Media Services Limited

Otter Lake Compostable Waste Annual Percentage Calculations

Strum Consulting's March 2026 report indicates a compostable waste percentage of 10.35% based on calculations from four quarterly reports.

Waste Collection Area	Three Year Waste Average (Tonnes)	Three Year Waste Average (% Total)	Average Total Compostable % Per Area	Estimated Annual Compostable Waste (Tonnes)
1	9886.00	20.39%	10.28%	1016.40
2	6744.75	13.91%	11.82%	797.50
3	4435.01	9.15%	9.54%	423.18
4	5337.22	11.01%	8.03%	428.49
5	8633.03	17.81%	9.83%	848.24
6	5075.21	10.47%	8.36%	424.40
7	2894.99	5.97%	9.39%	271.89
8	3230.78	6.66%	13.32%	430.30



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February 2026 Performance Audit, Otter Lake Waste Processing & Disposal Facility
Mr. Steve Copp
Mirror Nova Scotia Limited

March 23, 2026

Project # 22-8641

Waste Collection Area	Three Year Waste Average (Tonnes)	Three Year Waste Average (% Total)	Average Total Compostable % Per Area	Estimated Annual Compostable Waste (Tonnes)
Condos	2242.28	4.63%	16.76%	375.89
Total	48479.27	100.00%	N/A	5016.28
Compostable Waste Percentage = (5016.28/48479.27) X 100 = 10.35%				

Notes:

1. Data used to calculate three-year average provided by Mirror and included tonnage from the fiscal years 2022/2023, 2023/2024, and 2024/2025.

I'll come back to this table in a moment. The 10.35% calculation is based on incomplete information. Strum's February, 2026 quarterly audit explained that due to weather there was no collection from zone 8 and so it was not included in the fourth quarter audit.

Zone 8 includes Middle Musquodoboit; Musquodoboit Harbour; Elderbank; Sheet Harbour; Eastern Shore. As you can see in Table the line for Zone 8 is blank.

FEBRUARY 2026 PERFORMANCE AUDIT SUMMARY

A summary of the February 2026 Performance Audit completed at Otter Lake is provided below in Table C. The February 2026 Performance Audit field data sheets containing the data collected respective to each waste collection area during the audit are attached to this report as Attachment 3.

Table C: February 2026 Performance Audit Results

Waste Collection Area	Category Percentage (%)							
	Garbage/Residue	HHW	White Goods	Fibre - Newsprint/Paper	Fibre - Corrugated Cardboard	Organics - Food/Putrescible Waste	Organics - Yard Waste	Total Compostable Waste
1A	84.26%	0.00%	0.00%	3.81%	2.44%	8.63%	0.00%	14.87%
1B	85.15%	0.00%	1.29%	3.27%	5.45%	5.84%	0.00%	14.55%
2	89.10%	0.00%	2.56%	3.27%	1.54%	3.21%	0.13%	8.14%
3	89.51%	0.00%	0.00%	1.85%	1.73%	5.68%	0.00%	9.26%
4	93.04%	0.00%	0.00%	1.01%	3.99%	2.22%	0.00%	7.22%
5	86.13%	0.00%	1.39%	1.75%	6.50%	3.43%	0.00%	11.68%
6	85.80%	0.00%	0.00%	3.14%	3.14%	7.63%	0.00%	13.91%
7	89.69%	0.00%	0.00%	1.24%	4.02%	4.02%	0.00%	9.28%
8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Condos	70.91%	0.00%	0.00%	3.09%	10.36%	14.91%	0.00%	28.36%

Notes:

1. Total compostable waste percentage based on aggregate of four compostable waste category percentages.
2. No sample was collected from Area 8 during the February 2026 audit due to inclement weather.

Using the data in Table C above, the total compostable waste percentage ranged from a minimum of 7.22% (Area 4) to a maximum of 28.36% (Condos), based on the nine samples collected during the February 2026 Performance Audit. As noted previously, a sample was not collected from Area 8 during the February 2026 audit due to inclement weather.

Table D: Average Total Compostable Waste

Waste Collection Area	Three Year Waste Average (Tonnes)	May 2025 Total Compostable Waste	August 2025 Total Compostable Waste	November 2025 Total Compostable Waste	February 2026 Total Compostable Waste	Average Total Compostable Waste Per Area
1	9886.00	9.40%	10.05%	6.95%	14.71****	10.28%
2	6744.75	11.82%	17.70%	9.64%***	8.14%	11.82%
3	4435.01	5.17%	11.74%**	12.00%	9.26%	9.54%
4	5337.22	7.58%	12.41%	4.91%	7.22%	8.03%



February 2026 Performance Audit, Otter Lake Waste Processing & Disposal Facility
Mr. Steve Copp
Mirror Nova Scotia Limited

March 23, 2026
Project # 22-8641

Waste Collection Area	Three Year Waste Average (Tonnes)	May 2025 Total Compostable Waste	August 2025 Total Compostable Waste	November 2025 Total Compostable Waste	February 2026 Total Compostable Waste	Average Total Compostable Waste Per Area
5	8633.03	8.26%*	11.30%	8.06%	11.68%	9.83%
6	5075.21	5.30%	6.82%	7.42%	13.91%	8.36%
7	2894.99	2.54%	8.83%	16.92%	9.28%	9.39%
8	3230.78	9.90%	11.76%	18.29%	-	13.32%
Condos	2242.28	17.05%	6.95%	14.70%	28.36%	16.76%

Notes:

1. Data used to calculate three-year average provided by Mirror and included tonnage from the fiscal years 2022/2023, 2023/2024, and 2024/2025.
2. No sample was collected from Area 8 during the February 2026 audit due to inclement weather.
3. * May 2025 Total Compostable Waste percentage for Area 5 is based on average of the two samples (5A and 5B) collected during the May 2025 waste audit.
4. ** August 2025 Total Compostable Waste percentage for Area 3 is based on average of the two samples (3A and 3B) collected during the August 2025 waste audit.
5. *** November 2025 Total Compostable Waste percentage for Area 2 is based on average of the two samples (2A and 2B) collected during the November 2025 waste audit.
6. **** February 2026 Total Compostable Waste percentage for Area 1 is based on average of the two samples (1A and 1B) collected during the February 2026 waste audit.

Based on the data in Table D above, the average total compostable waste percentage ranges from a minimum of 8.03% (Area 4) to a maximum of 16.76% (Condos).

On table D, all zones except 8 have their Average total waste percentage calculated for the year averaged on four quarters. Zone 8 total compostable waste for 2024-25 was calculated based on based on three quarters. A more precise annual average annual waste percentage couldn't be calculated because of the missing fourth quarter data.

That reflects on the actual tonnage entering the landfill as shown in table E. There are no entries on the line for zone 8 on that table.

Table E: Estimated Annual Compostable Waste based on February 2026 Data

Waste Collection Area	Three Year Waste Average (Tonnes)	February 2026 Total Compostable Waste	Estimated Annual Compostable Waste (Tonnes)
1	9886.00	14.71*	1454.60
2	6744.75	8.14%	549.09
3	4435.01	9.26%	410.65
4	5337.22	7.22%	385.09
5	8633.03	11.68%	1008.24
6	5075.21	13.91%	705.72
7	2894.99	9.28%	268.61
8	-	-	-
Condos	2242.28	28.36%	635.99
Total	45248.49	N/A	5418.00
Compostable Waste Percentage = (5418.00/45248.49) X 100 = 11.97%			

Notes:

1. Data used to calculate three-year average provided by Mirror and included tonnage from the fiscal years 2022/2023, 2023/2024, and 2024/2025.
2. * February 2026 Total Compostable Waste percentage for Area 1 is based on average of the two samples (1A and 1B) collected during the November 2025 waste audit.
3. No sample was collected from Area 8 during the February 2026 audit due to inclement weather.

However, when calculating the Estimate Annual Compostable tonnage and percentage for the 2024-25 year, a calculation is again made for zone 8 based on three audits while all other zones and condos are based on 4 quarterly audits.

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Notes:

1. Data used to calculate three-year average provided by Mirror and included tonnage from the fiscal years 2022/2023, 2023/2024, and 2024/2025.

According to the calculations, 430.3 tonnes of compostable waste enter the Otter Lake Landfill each year. However, in the absence of fourth quarter information, that is based on incomplete information and may not be entirely accurate although the process is considered acceptable.

In the May audit, zone 8 had the second highest percentage behind condos but was below 10% its estimated annual contribution to the landfill was 319.85 tonnes to the landfill.

In the August audit, zone 8 had the third highest percentage and at 11.76% was beyond 10% and its annual landfill contribution was estimated to be 380.09 tonnes.

In the November audit, zone 8 had the highest at 18.29% and it was estimated that it contributed 590.91 tonnes of compostable waste annually to the landfill.

Another factor to be considered is that in the fourth quarter, five of the remaining 8 districts including condos experienced spikes in the volume of compostable waste going into the landfill and four were over the 10 per cent.

I plugged zone 8's November numbers in for the fourth quarter just to see how the statistics would be impacted. I realize that that is not acceptable and Jordan Vallis reinforced that when we met earlier this month. However, I just wanted to test how that would affect the numbers.

When November's numbers were used for the fourth quarter in zone 8, the average total compostable waste in tonnage would be 470.44 tonnes not 430.3 and the compostable waste percentage would be 10.43 not 10.35.

Again, making up numbers to insert in a blank quarter is unacceptable but the test reveals how important it is to have all four quarters counted to get an accurate percentage of the organic waste entering the landfill each year.

This past year is not an anomaly. The exact same thing happened in the fourth quarter of last year for the same zone, zone 8. Winter weather prevented the February collection there and affected the numbers in the same way.

Chair, Community Monitoring Committee
PO Box 213
Lakeside Nova Scotia, B3T 1M6

Ms. Shannon Betts
Director, Halifax Solid Waste
Halifax Regional Municipality
(via email)

June 30, 2026

Dear Shannon,

Further to your email of June 25, which I was pleased to receive, I want to draw your attention to the perspectives of the CMC and The Halifax Waste Resource Society (HWRS).

Should HRM contemplate changes to either the Front End Processor (FEP) / Waste Stabilization Facility (WSF), the long-standing legal advice provided to the HWRS, a party to the governing February 1999 Agreement for Community Monitoring of Solid Waste Facilities, states: *"Under the terms of the Agreement, HRM is required to ensure that only Acceptable Waste (as defined in the Agreement) may be disposed at the Otter Lake Landfill. In doing so, HRM committed to front end processing of incoming waste to remove putrescible material."*

We strongly contend, that this cited legal opinion, a copy of which I believe you have, remains unchanged. Our legal counsel concluded that in her considered opinion: *"The parties to the Agreement (HRM and the Society) may agree to amend the terms of the Agreement. However, that process would not be a consultation under the Agreement, but instead a renegotiation of the Agreement's terms."*

Consequently, the CMC and HWRS respectfully request that any changes to the status quo, either in the conduct of the quarterly performance audits or the amount of organic waste permitted to enter the landfill, be matters for renegotiation in coming months with the HWRS under the 1999 Agreement.

Both the CMC - and the HWRS - stand ready to renegotiate the terms of the Agreement.

In the meantime, we cannot consent to HRM relying on the Nova Scotia Department of Environment and Climate Change (NSDECC) to issue an "approval" that would permit the HRM to remove or dismantle the FEP/WSF facilities, now maintained in a "hot-idle"

position, in readiness to be reactivated. If this were to happen without having renegotiated the terms of the 1999 Agreement, we believe HRM would be in violation of its 1999 Agreement with the HWRS.

You may be aware, through the inquiries of our Liaison Assistant, we also have concerns about incomplete data that went into the weighted compostable waste percentage of 10.35% reported to the NSDECC for May 2025, August 2025, November 2025 and February 2026. We are endeavouring to sort this out with Jordan Vallis.

In light of your June 25 email, the HWRS and CMC expect to hold a joint open meeting in July to which HRM will be invited to state and discuss its intentions concerning greater flexibility in how future audits are conducted, and the changes sought in the amount of allowable organic material by mass entering the landfill, now targeted at 10% by the NSDECC.

Should the CMC fail to receive prior assurance from HRM that a re-negotiation of the 1999 Agreement will take place in relation to HRM's objectives in this regard, immediately following the open session, separate in-camera sessions will be held for CMC members and staff, and for the HWRS to discuss arising legal issues.

It would be a great disappointment to the membership of the CMC and to the HWRS if HRM decided to act in breach of the 1999 Agreement, which was signed in good faith by the HWRS, representing the interests of the residents and communities surrounding the Otter Lake landfill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Reg Rankin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Reg Rankin
Chair, CMC
President, HWRS