

**Soil & Water Conservation Society of Metro Halifax (SWCSMH)**

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**Ref.:** regionalcouncil2005\_2 (2 pages)  
**To:** **Mayor Peter Kelly and the Regional Council, HRM**  
**From:** S. M. Mandaville Post-Grad Dip., Professional Lake Manage.  
Chairman and Scientific Director  
**Date:** May 19, 2005  
**Subject:** **All studies relating to potential impacts on lakes and rivers should be conducted by a qualified limnologist; and all studies should also include the professional designations/credentials of all the participants!**

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Our acclaimed scientific group has been concerned for over a whole decade about the scientific credentials of authors of some studies conducted at considerable public expense.

Two (2) very important requests to the Regional Council:--

**Request #1: Any and all studies relating to potential impacts on lakes as well as rivers are the prime domain of 'qualified limnologists'; it is unprofessional and unethical to indulge in scientific disciplines one is not formally qualified and/or acclaimed by independent scientific bodies in!**

This is also the NS Dept. of Environment & Labour's policy under their superb Storm Drainage Works Approval Policy which was finally promulgated on December 10, 2002! (See Sec. V.2 of their policy which is in our web site, <http://lakes.chebucto.org/DOE/sdwap.html> ; our URLs are case sensitive)

**Request #2: Further, we feel that the names of every staff person at any consulting organization (or even at the academia) who was involved in a study should be listed along with their credentials as an Appendix or in the Introduction in each study; this is not being done in most municipally funded studies.**

We have been unable to ascertain who the `qualified limnologists' have been in several well funded studies conducted for the HRM (and for its former municipal units) although we possess not only the membership lists of most credible scientific societies all over the western world but also the certification lists awarded to limnologists who are proficient in applied (i.e., practical) limnology!

As a comparison with other disciplines, when a professional engineer (PEng) or a professional land surveyor (NSLS) carries out work, their professional stamps are clearly visible on design or survey plans.

We emphasize `credentials' and not CVs or resumes!

**Incidentally, several of your well paid consultants have freely utilized our studies and some of our published synopses, mostly, for the prime benefit of HRM and for its previous municipalities!**

Many of our studies, whether carried out by volunteers (all being scientists/professionals) and/or as paid researchers, include 1 to 4 pages of the qualifications and any major scientific accomplishments of the `participants'. In other words, we are not secretive!

Your Worship, this is not unusual. If you look at some of the studies conducted at the requirement of our NS Dept. of Environment & Labour, you will see such aspects generally adhered to though not always!

Hence, why is the HRM so secretive about the formal accreditations of its major consultants? When some one is honest, there is no reason to be secretive. Secrecy raises several suspicions. No genuine scientist is secretive of one's scientific credentials!

Cc: Dan English MBA (Dy. CAO); Betty MacDonald MBA (Director); Brad Anguish PEng MBA (Director); Wayne Anstey QC (Director); Tony Blouin PhD (Manager); Paul Dunphy MCIP (Director); John Sheppard PEng (Manager); Carol Macomber MCIP (Manager); Austin French MCIP (Manager); Roger Wells MCIP (Manager); Halifax Watershed Advisory Board (HWAB); Bedford Watershed Advisory Board (BWAB); and other recipients