



"for the use of the inhabitants of the town of Halifax as Common forever" (1763-2023)

August 30, 2023

Dear Premier Houston and HRM Mayor Savage:

Re: QE Redevelopment on Halifax Common

We have received no response to our letter of July 14, 2023 regarding your intention to destroy 37 mature, historic trees on the perimeter of the QEII block of the Halifax Common.

Residents of HRM are not uneducated voters; they are able to understand that this is not a choice between destroying irreplaceable trees and a new hospital. The Province can choose to preserve life affirming majestic trees and change the proposed building plans so that it is set back from the sidewalk and the root balls of the trees do not interfere with the building.

Residents of HRM will understand that HRM can choose to do the right thing and not issue the necessary permits for this destruction to take place.

It is wrong to suggest that these trees are replaceable. They are not.

Each tree obliterated by the Province with the permission of HRM will require ~**2,000** new trees to compensate for the many benefits provided by **one** mature tree.

This summer has brought home to Nova Scotians the impact of climate change on our province. We can no longer afford to take the path of expediency, eradicating beautiful, mature trees, when all that is required is to redesign a building that hasn't even been started and will not be completed for many years.

You can make a difference, do so.

We look forward to hearing from you in a timely manner.

Yours truly,

Thank you.

Directors, Friends of Halifax Common (via email)

Peggy Cameron	William Breckenridge	Janet Stevenson
Beverly Miller	David Garrett	Howard Epstein
Lawrence McEachern	Judith Fingard	Peggy Smith

cc: Ministers of Finance, Public Works, Health and Wellness, Environment, Leaders of the Opposition, HRM Council. FHC Members, Media