



January 28, 2025

Honorable Tory Rushton  
Department of Natural Resources and Renewables  
3rd Floor, Founders Square  
1701 Hollis Street, P.O. Box 698  
Halifax, NS. B3J 2T9

Dear Hon. Rushton,

The Municipality of East Hants is requesting that the province establishes and operates a permanent boat washdown area for the Shubenacadie Grand Lake boat launch at Oakfield Park. Shubenacadie Grand Lake faces environmental risks from invasive species which can be brought into the watershed from the public boat launches. This boat launch is heavily used by the public, which without quality controls in place, makes this provincial asset a risk to the health of the lake.

This request is coming forward as part of Council motion C24(317), as a recommendation received by the Municipality from the East Hants Source Water Protection Advisory Committee. The committee has been receiving information on aquatic invasive species from subject matter experts that include the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, and academic study information from Saint Mary's University. It is also requested that in addition to the washdown station, the province also execute enforcement for boat access and use of the lake at peak seasons, such as the fishing derby season, as an ongoing measure to protect the lake from environmental threats.

Support from the Province to engage and work through the complexities of these two areas would be greatly appreciated. The Municipality looks forward to collaborating on this topic and finding a path forward together.

Sincerely,

Eleanor Roulston, Warden  
Municipality of East Hants

E: John A. MacDonald - MLA Hants East  
Hon. Tim Halman - Minister of Environment and Climate Change  
Hon. Kent Smith - Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture