## **Sheralee Mitchell-MacEwan**

Subject:

FW: Advancing Development Opportunities in Walton

From: darren porter

**Sent:** May 11, 2025 9:44 PM

To: Adam Clarkson <aclarkson@easthants.ca>

**Subject:** Advancing Development Opportunities in Walton

## Dear Adam,

I am writing to provide an update on recent developments in Walton and to express appreciation to the Municipality of East Hants. Together, progress has been made in supporting the community's marine potential.

Walton's unique natural features, including its deep, sheltered harbour make it an ideal location for both renewable energy initiatives and the lobster fishery. It is encouraging to see improved community water access, with the new public access being established adjacent to the commercial entry point. With the completion of the land exchange, Minas Select Inc. is now positioned to take meaningful steps forward in developing Walton into a fully active marina that serves multiple sectors.

As you may be aware, the railcars placed in the Basin by the now-defunct Occurrent Tidal project have been declared a navigational hazard. In light of this, an unsolicited proposal has been submitted to the province for the removal of these railcars. To move beyond the limitations imposed by Occurrent's bankruptcy, we are exploring practical solutions that not only eliminate this hazard but also contribute constructively to local infrastructure.

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) has granted Minas Select Inc. approval for a 200 sq metre infill on PID #45149093 that was recently acquired from the Municipality. This enables the potential reconstruction of a wharf. One proposed solution would see the removed railcar material repurposed to support wharf construction and protect existing infrastructure, a cost-effective and sustainable approach. One of our next priorities is to secure approvals to repair and rebuild the breakwater at PID #45347036, which was also recently acquired from the Municipality. The breakwater is critical for protecting both Minas Select Inc's commercial ramp, the Municipality's public access and the province's infrastructure on highway 215.

I am committed to keeping you informed as we progress through these next stages of development. Please do not hesitate to contact me at any time should you have questions or wish to discuss this further.

Sincerely, Darren Porter, President,

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