



**Transport
Canada**

Assistant Deputy Minister
Programs

Place de Ville
Ottawa ON K1A 0N5

**Transports
Canada**

Sous-ministre adjoint
Programmes

September 9, 2025

His Worship Andy Fillmore
Mayor
Halifax Regional Municipality
mayor@halifax.ca

Dear Mayor Fillmore and Members of Halifax Regional Council:

This is further to the Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM) staff report concerning the Dartmouth Cove water lots that will be considered at the Halifax Regional Council on September 9, 2025. This report, states that “Amendments prohibiting most infilling activities of water lots require the Federal Government’s support.”

Consistent with written correspondence dated September 22, 2023, and March 4, 2024, and as communicated at meetings, including one chaired by HRM on April 22, 2024, Transport Canada’s responsibility as set out in the *Canadian Navigable Waters Act* (CNWA) is to ensure navigable waters remain open for transport and recreation.

In fulfilling this responsibility, it considers applications for approvals of works under the CNWA. As typically indicated in Transport Canada’s approval letters under the CNWA, it is a proponent’s responsibility to comply with any other applicable laws and regulations, including those of municipalities.

Any HRM decision to restrict infilling by way of bylaws is within its own authority, provided that the pith and substance of the Municipality’s bylaws do not fall within federal jurisdiction, including navigation and shipping, or apply to federal lands.

I trust this information is helpful. Transport Canada is available to answer any question you may have.

Yours sincerely,

Stephanie Hébert
Assistant Deputy Minister, Programs

Canada

c.c. The Honourable Darren Fisher, P.C., M.P.
Dartmouth–Cole Harbour

Brad Anguish
Acting Chief Administrative Officer
Halifax Regional Council