

Hello Sandy Lake Regional Park Coalition (SLRPC)

SLCA was able to arrange a meeting with representatives of Clayton Developments about 10 days ago, after hearing surprising news from our Councillor that the developer would soon be submitting an application for Secondary Planning for the lands west of Sandy Lake. The area is about 500 acres and includes the 200 + acres that were clear-cut by the previous owner.

We are pleased to report that the meeting was positive. We had heard for some time that Clayton Developments is a community-minded company. We had been relieved to learn a few years ago that they had purchased the 200 acres of clear-cut land. The Clayton representatives demonstrated to us in this meeting that they are what we believed.

Given that they are already working with the city and communities to help a couple other areas realize their important park goals, it was indeed a relief to have the Sandy Lake area's community's long-held park goals heard with such grace. They are willing to work with us and the city to find a win-win solution. Our challenge now is to gain enough awareness and support from city hall to accomplish this.

We will likely need Coalition support much sooner than we had thought. We had not expected the process to be initiated for several years. However, so far so good.

In the meantime,

1. We have a pamphlet nearly ready
2. The Coalition website should be ready to launch in a few weeks. Coalition member groups can view the developing site at: sandylakecoalition.ca
3. We await the Green Network Plan with anticipation of its underlining the importance of the Sandy Lake greater area for several reasons, including connectivity to the Chebucto Peninsula.

We expect a few organized walks at Sandy Lake over the next month or two and will let you know.

To see more pictures and science go to Dr. David Patriquin's website,

<http://versicolor.ca/sandylakebedford/lakes/>

For historical documents and recent history go to www.sandylake.org

Happy 30th birthday to the Sackville Rivers Association!

Here is a list of the Sandy Lake Regional Park Coalition groups to date: SLCA (Sandy Lake Conservation Association), SRA (Sackville Rivers Association), Agropur Cooperative Dairy Bedford Plant, Beechville Lakeside Timberlea Rails to Trails, Canoe/Kayak Nova Scotia, Ecology Action Centre, Five Bridges Wilderness Heritage Trust, Friends of McNabs Island Society, Halifax North West Trails Association, Nova Scotia Bird

Society, Nova Scotia Wild Flora Society, St. Margaret's Bay Stewardship Association, The Halifax Field Naturalists, The Turtle Patrol, and WRWEO / The Bluff Wilderness Hiking Trail, and more are coming.

Thanks to each of you for your support. Stay tuned.

Karen

Karen L.H. Robinson

Park Committee Chair

Sandy Lake Conservation Association (SLCA)