

Note: This letter was found December 2025 on the 'open information portal' where the government routinely posts results of FOIPOP searches. It contains October 22 communication from Clayton Developments to the Premier's office which attempt to discredit both the community's honourable work and Dr. David Patriqion's summary water quality report of Oct 1, 2024, sent to the Premier.

Link: https://openinformation.novascotia.ca/FOI-Requests/2025-02385-PRE/723y-6g96/about_data



October 22, 2024

Honourable Tim Houston
Premier, Province of Nova Scotia
Office of the Premier
7th Floor, One Government Place
1700 Granville Street, Halifax, NS

Premier Houston:

Re: Response to [redacted] submission (Sandy Lake – October 1, 2024)

Community engagement in the planning process is important and we welcome dialogue where we can learn from existing residents and improve our development plans accordingly. In addition, we also respect those whose opinions are contrary to proposed development plans. That said, when opposition to projects extends beyond rational objections, and cites pseudo-science as fact, we feel that we need to respond.

Clayton Developments Limited has a legacy of sensitive and successful development in lake watersheds for decades, including: Morris Lake, Russell Lake, Papermill Lake, Kearney Lake, Barry's Run, and Lake Charles. We host rigorous, independent, third-party lake monitoring testing pre-development, throughout construction and post-development. The scientific data and analysis supports our continued position that we are able to develop responsibly within lake watersheds, Sandy Lake is no exception.

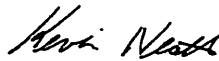
With respect to a recent letter you and others received from [redacted] (October 1, 2024) on behalf of residents currently residing on Sandy Lake, we would urge you to review it in the context of the inherent bias they have to maintain their current exclusive status residing directly on Sandy Lake

We can see a similar approach taken in [redacted]'s work related to Mount Hope / Eisner Cove, where he contended that developing Mount Hope would "seriously degrade the wetland". Enclosed is an Environmental Conditions update letter from Englobe, an independent environmental monitoring firm, confirming the wetland has not been degraded and continues to function as predicted. Englobe's position is based on in-field testing, adhering to Nova Scotia Environment and Climate Change rigorous monitoring protocols. As

we continue to build-out Mount Hope with much needed housing, Englobe will continue with a five-year monitoring schedule.

Contrary to common fallacies, perpetuated by those with special interests, it is indeed possible to responsibly develop and provide new housing while maintaining the health and quality of the surrounding environment. The Nova Scotia Department of Environment and Climate Change policies and regulations are in place to ensure this remains intact.

Yours truly,



Kevin Neatt
Vice President – Planning and Development
Clayton Developments Limited / The Shaw Group

From: Kevin Neatt
Sent: Tue, 22 Oct 2024 13:53:42 +0000
To: Premier;Minister, Env
Cc: Jason Brunt
Subject: Response to David Patriquin
Attachments: Clayton Response to David Patriquin - Oct 22 2024.pdf

Some people who received this message don't often get email from kneatt@claytondev.com.

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Honourable Tim Houston, Premier:

Attached is a letter we felt compelled to be provide to you and your office in response to 20(1)'s submission.

Regards,
Kevin



Kevin Neatt, BA, MA, (Geog)
Vice President, Planning &
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From: [redacted]@yahoo.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, October 1, 2024 7:31 AM
To: premier@novascotia.ca; mayor@halifax.ca; dmamin@novascotia.ca;
Minister.Environment@novascotia.ca
Cc: waye.mason@halifax.ca; [redacted]@gmail.com>; [redacted]
[redacted]@hotmail.com>; hrm@ecologyaction.ca; [redacted]
[redacted]@stantec.com; Kevin Neatt
<kneatt@claytondev.com>; [redacted]
Subject: On the precarious state of Sandy Lake (Sandy Lake Special Planning Area)

Oct 1, 2024

To: **Honourable Tim Houston**, Premier, Province of Nova Scotia,
Mayor John Savage, Halifax Regional Municipality

Honourable John Lohr, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Honourable Timothy Halman Minister of Environment and Climate Change

From: [redacted]

Subject:
The precarious state of Sandy Lake (Sandy Lake Special Planning Area)

I am writing to you as key decision-makers in relation to a major challenge that faces us in HRM and Nova Scotia at large: the need to address the housing crisis and the combined Climate/Biodiversity crisis simultaneously, and as much as possible with approaches that are not compromises, that are win-win for both housing and our environment.

Specifically I want to bring to your attention a key issue pertaining to the state of Sandy Lake which lies within the Sandy Lake Special Planning Area in HRM. I suggest it is serious enough to warrant not proceeding with the development as currently envisaged, if at all; that if we do, we are very much addressing housing at the expense of Climate/Biodiversity, and also in the intermediate to longer term, the well being of the surrounding communities.

On the other hand, I suggest that we can place the currently proposed development on some of the already degraded lands or lands of much lower ecological value in the same general area and that by doing so we would be addressing both the Housing Crisis and the combined Climate Biodiversity Crisis simultaneously; and conserving a significant natural heritage/outdoor recreation area for the benefit of very many folks in a major growth area.

The details are in the letter and two related documents attached.

I am very grateful for your consideration of this issue.

Respectfully,

[redacted]