

July 17, 2001

Halifax Regional Municipality
Office of the Mayor
1841 Argyle Street
PO Box 1749
Halifax, NS
B3J 3A5

Dear Mayor Kelly:

RE: BURNSIDE COMPOSTING FACILITY

On behalf of the Burnside Committee of the Metropolitan Halifax Chamber of Commerce, I would like to commend the Municipality on the success of the composting program currently in place. We are very pleased with the initiative taken by HRM to encourage environmentally-friendly behavior. The program has been a great success and individuals and businesses alike have responded positively.

We do, however, believe it is important to ensure that the necessary infrastructure to support organic waste diversion is in place. As we understand it, the current facility in Burnside Industrial Park is operating over capacity. This facility has a good historical record of being a positive neighbour in our business park community and ongoing operation of the facility over-capacity could endanger this positive record. An odour problem in the park, generated by long-term production above capacity, could create both short and long-term problems. In the short-term it will hinder the frequency of visitors to the area, and in the long-term impact on the ability to attract new business to the park.

While it is our understanding that the facility operators and HRM are working to resolve the capacity issue, to address the short-term problem we would urge that this be done as quickly as possible. In terms of addressing the longer-term implications of over production, we urge you to prepare a long-term facilities strategy to meet the demand.

Sincerely,

Michelle Reid
Chair, Burnside Committee