

March 13th, 2012



Office of the Municipal Clerk

City Hall
1841 Argyle Street, Main Floor
PO Box 1749
Halifax, NS B3J 3A5

Dear Mayor Kelly and Councilors:

The Halifax Chamber of Commerce would like to take this opportunity to reiterate its full support for the Joint Development Project for the YMCA of Greater Halifax/Dartmouth and the CBC/Radio-Canada buildings.

As I'm sure you know, this project has the ability to provide significant and long-lasting benefits to the Peninsular Halifax community. The addition of a YMCA Recreation Centre of Community for Peninsular Halifax will bring to the citizens a fully accessible, modern facility where the pursuit of improved health and well-being can be achieved. These sorts of attractive and fully functional facilities are a critical component of healthy communities.

The new facility will also include greatly needed aquatic infrastructure with multiple pool tanks of varying temperatures and depths to accommodate a wider range of user needs, state of the art health and active living equipment and programming, and a variety of community spaces for all to enjoy.

An added bonus to this development project is the creation of an excellent urban design and mixed-use project that will bring people, excitement and safety to our city.

Furthermore, adding residents to the downtown core and providing additional local amenities will generate increased economic activity to the Spring Garden Road and main street areas as well as for the Downtown District in general. This would result in real, tangible benefits for local businesses located in this area.

Sincerely,

Valerie Payn
President & CEO
Halifax Chamber of Commerce

Copy: Richard Harvey, HRM Senior Planner
Bette Watson-Borg, YMCA President & CEO
Robert Richardson, YMCA Chair of the Board

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