#### Where

- Eastern end of Williams Lake
- Partly in Shaw Wilderness Park
- Trail in from HRM carpark Purcell's Cove Rd

#### History

- Built 1770's
- Now an orphan dam

### **The Problem**

- Dam is disintegrating and failing
- Lake loses 5-Olympic sized swimming pools of water daily under the dam
- Lake at record low levels in 4 of last 6 summers

#### Why It Matters

- Williams Lake provides year-round recreation for Haligonians - swimming, picnicking, kayaking, fishing, canoeing, sailing, skating, iceboating, ice fishing, sail boarding, hockey
- Low lake levels impact 4 public access parks on Williams Lake
- Low lake levels = warmer water = increased risk of algal blooms and ecosystem damage

# Williams Lake Dam



Volumes of lake water leak under the Williams Lake dam every day all year.

## Mudflats in September, 2020







Community access to Williams Lake is compromised when water levels are low.



- Acorn Road Park non motorized boat launch
- Williams Lake Beach all year recreation for community
- Pine Bluff Island Park non motorized boat launch, swimming, fishing, skating, picnicking, canoeing, kayaking
- Shaw Wildérness Park 139 hectors, 1km lake access



Dramatic fluctuations in lake water levels jeopardize health of ecosystem and reduce community access to this popular recreational lake.

Wildlife habitats, nesting sites, aquatic populations and biodiversity require a fully functioning lake and a dam that holds lake waters to seasonal and safe levels all year.

Dalhousie Environmental Science students study aquatic health of Williams Lake.

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Three political parties promised to save Williams Lake by fixing the dam.

The Province is in danger of losing a community recreational asset and important wildlife habitat.

It is easier to save this natural environment, its ecosystem, aquatic populations and its biodiversity than it is to try to replace it.

Save Williams Lake. Fix the dam!

Climate change, global warming, reduced rainfall, housing developments in watershed all impact water levels.

Two engineering firms reported that the dam is structurally unsound and should be repaired or replaced.

Currently the dam is submerged and not built to withstand overtopping of the crest.







Remediation of the dam is the central solution to saving Williams Lake