

ELECTORAL BOUNDARY REVIEW

Under its Charter, HRM is required to undertake a full district boundary review every 8 years. The Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board allowed HRM to undertake a modified review in 2006-07, but ordered that a full district boundary review be submitted by December 31, 2010. Therefore, HRM's Governance and District Boundary Review Committee is reviewing the polling districts and their boundaries within HRM prior to the 2012 Municipal Elections. The committee is seeking citizen input through a series of 7 public consultation meetings as part of the first phase of the boundary review process. For more information about this and to access a detailed list of scheduled meetings, please refer to the HRM web-site at : www.halifax.ca/boundaryreview . One of these meetings in our area will be on Wednesday, March 10th, 7PM at the Lawrencetown Community Centre. Residents who cannot make any of the meetings can still have their opinions included by visiting the web-site. Once this phase of public consultation is complete, HRM Council will make a decision on its governance model and, based on that decision, specific district boundaries will be adjusted or revised and residents will be consulted again in the Fall.

DOG KENNEL RECOMMENDATION

The Marine Drive Valley & Canal Community Council will be asked to decide on what regulations should apply to permit dog kennels within the Lawrencetown Plan area. The meeting is slated for Wednesday, March 10th, 7 PM at the Lawrencetown Community Centre. There were 2 Information Meetings in the past (Sept. 9th 2009 & Sept. 17th 2008) about this very dogged issue.

CANADA WINTER GAMES 2011

Volunteer are needed. This is an exciting opportunity to be part of the largest multi-sport event ever to be held in Halifax (Feb. 11th-27th, 2011) and to further develop your leadership and communication skills. To apply, you can submit a cover letter and resume outlining your areas of interest, via email to : volunteer@canadagames2011.ca or by mail to: Erin Joudrey; 2011 Canada Games Host Society, PO Box 1749; Halifax, NS, B3J 3A5, or by fax to 490-5730 or call 490-2011 for more details. Or go to the Canada Winter Games 2011 web-site at : www.canadagames2011.ca/en/home/getinvolved/volunteers/default.aspx

HRM GRANTS 2010-11 DEADLINE

HRM has a Community Grants Program that provides annual cash grants to registered non-profit organizations and charities. These are one-time, project specific grants. HRM does not provide multi-year grants or core operating funding. There are two types of grants: (a) a project grant of up to \$5,000 and (b) a capital grant of up to \$25,000. Presently, the program provides assistance to specific types of projects in the following categories: Environment; Recreation; Leisure; Affordable Housing & Emergency Shelters; Emergency Assistance; Neighbourhood Safety; Community History; Community Diversity; and Arts & Crafts. The HRM Community Grants Guidebook contains detailed eligibility criteria for the program and for each of the funding sectors. Application deadline is March 31st. The Guidebook and forms are available at HRM Libraries and Customer Service Centres and, or go to: www.halifax.ca/boardscom/bccgrants/CommunityGrantsProgram.html. For more details, contact the HRM Call Centre at 490-4000.

NS ACCESS-ABILITY GRANTS

The Provincial Government is committed to equal opportunity and improving handicap access to community facilities. Under this program, funds are available for cost shared projects to non-profit community organizations for accessibility related capital improvements. They will make grants of up to two thirds of the direct and indirect costs of renovations, installations, and/or equipment, with the sponsoring organization being responsible for raising at least one third of their improvement project's funding from other sources. The maximum grant available for individual projects is \$10,000. Projects will be reviewed and awarded on a quarterly basis as funding permits. Application deadlines are also quarterly : March 31st, June 30th , Sept. 30th , and Dec. 31st. For more details; contact Georgina Dimock, Program Administrator, at 424-5965 or by e-mail : dimockgm@gov.ns.ca or by post: Service NS & Municipal Relations - P.O. Box 216, Halifax, NS, B3J 2M4 or go to their web-site to: www.gov.ns.ca/snsmr/muns/infr/access/access.asp



Happy St. Patrick's Day

**COUNCILLOR DAVID HENSBEE**

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