



DISTRICT 5 NEWS

Dartmouth Centre - Halifax Regional Municipality

Gloria McCluskey, Councillor - District 5

Winter 2006



Boards and Committees

I currently serve on the following Boards/Committees:

- Alderney Landing Project (Board of Directors)
- Audit Committee (Chair)
- Board of Police Commissioners
- HRM Capital District Commission
- Dangerous and Unsightly Premises
- Halifax-Dartmouth Natal Day Steering Committee
- Downtown Dartmouth Business Commission
- Sportsplex
- For the Public Good

How to Contact Me

Halifax Regional Municipality
P.O. Box 1749
Halifax, NS B3J 3A5

Cell: 476-1667
Office: 490-7033
Fax: 490-4871
City Hall: 490-4050
City Hall Fax: 490-4122
Email: mccclusg@halifax.ca

HRM General Information

490-4000
Seven days a week 7:00am -11:00pm
General information is also available on
the internet at: www.halifax.ca

My Score Card

It has been two years since I was elected as your representative. How am I doing? I would appreciate feedback and constructive criticism. Please contact me with your input and suggestions at anytime.

Dear Residents of District 5

Here we are into winter and near the end of another year. I Hope summer was good for you and that you are looking forward to a great festive season.

Residents of District 5 have had a year of disruption on their streets, due to gas line installation and the installation of pipes leading to the Sewer Treatment Plant. Thank you for putting up with all the turmoil; more particularly, thanks to those of you who reside on Shore Road and surrounding streets, for tolerating almost a year of dust, noise and street closures.

After ten years of waiting, we finally have our bridge over Lake Banook, with the approaches being finished this week. Twenty-five thousand dollars from my District Capital Fund went toward the cost of the project. Full credit for the design goes to Allan Billard of Canoe To The Sea, who spent many hours working with the designer and builder. Thanks Allan!

Our paddlers once again did us proud at the National Canoe Championships in Regina, as well as at the Worlds. Congratulations to this dedicated group of athletes who, by the way, are still out training on Lake Banook.

"Sullivan Pond Comes Alive With Lights, Music, A Fountain and Fireworks!"

By the time you receive this newsletter, we will have once again celebrated the Tree Lighting Ceremony at Sullivan's Pond, with thousands coming to celebrate the unveiling of the fountain and the fireworks. Special thanks to the Halifax Foundation, Kiwanis Club, TD Trust (main sponsor) and the many other sponsors including HRM, without whom the night would not have been possible. It's great to see celebrations like these taking place in Dartmouth.

I have enjoyed working for you and as we begin a new year, I commit again to your service. To all residents of District 5, feel free to call me at any time. My hope is that you have a very Merry Christmas and a healthy and happy New Year!

Warmest regards,



Mayor's Tea



Mayor Kelly and me, along with residents at Alderney Manor, Dartmouth, this past spring.

Snow Removal: What to Expect



HRM has established service standards for the removal of snow this winter. Key objectives of the snow and ice service standards are to reduce hazards of ice and snow conditions for motorists and pedestrians, to clear access for emergency

vehicles and to minimize economic loss to the community. Specifically, residents can expect:

- Main arterial roads (priority 1) cleared to bare pavement driving lanes 12 hours following the end of snowfall;
- Transit routes (priority 1) and collector roads cleared to 3m centerline bare 12 hours following the end of snowfall;
- Residential streets with greater than 10% slope that serve as snow routes (priority 1) cleared to centerline bare, 12 hours following the end of a snowfall;
- Other residential streets (priority 2), passable 24 hours following the end of a snowfall;
- Main arterial sidewalks cleared 12 hours following the end of a snowfall;
- School route sidewalks cleared 18 hours following the end of snowfall;
- Residential sidewalks cleared 36 hours following the end of snowfall;

Please note, that during weather events with snowfalls greater than thirty centimetres or in blizzard conditions, service levels may not be achieved. However, as always best efforts will be made to ensure that service standards are met.

HRM Launches New Graffiti Website



As part of Halifax Regional Municipality's recently adopted Graffiti Management Plan, residents are encouraged to take action against graffiti in their neighborhoods and to be aware of the negative social and economic impact graffiti has on their community.

A comprehensive web site (www.halifax.ca/graffiti) now offers new graffiti reporting procedures, information on efforts to reduce graffiti and tips for graffiti removal and prevention.

Residents are urged to do their part to keep our community clean, welcoming and vibrant by remembering the Three R's:

Three R's of Graffiti Removal and Prevention

1. Record It - Note the time, location and date of when graffiti is discovered. Take a picture or record what it said.
2. Report It - Graffiti in Progress - Call 911 immediately; graffiti vandalism is a crime and should be reported to police
Graffiti on HRM-owned Property - Call 490-4000 or report online at www.halifax.ca/access HRM. Graffiti on Private Property - Call the Police at 490-5016 to file a Property Damage Report.
3. Remove It - Quick removal is the best deterrent against repeat offenders. Visit www.halifax.ca/graffiti for removal and prevention tips.

For more information, residents are requested to please contact the HRM Corporate Call Centre at 490-4000 or visit www.halifax.ca/graffiti.

HRM Volunteer Award



Pictured here are Mayor Kelly, HRM Volunteer Award 2006 recipient Geoffrey Sykes and myself, as Geoffrey receives his award this past August for all of his volunteer efforts. Thank you Geoffrey for making our community a better place in which to live.

Expanded Hours for HRM Corporate Call Centre

The HRM Corporate Call Centre's hours of operation have been expanded from 7:00 am to 11:00 pm. The only exceptions to this are Christmas Day and New Years Day, when the Corporate Call Centre is closed.

After 11:00 pm, emergency calls will be directed to the on-duty commissioner. Calling through to the HRM Corporate Call Centre is the most effective way to register your concerns. When a call is logged at the Centre, a service number is issued. You may wish to record your service number for future reference. Time between the initial call and resolution of the issue is monitored frequently, to ensure that residents' calls are handled in the most efficient manner possible.

Residents may contact the HRM Call Centre at 490-4000 or visit the HRM website at www.halifax.ca to register concerns through ACCESS HRM. While the call centre is available to take your calls, you can also call me at 490-7033.

Expanded Sunday Transit Service

On Sunday, November 5th, 2006, Metro Transit introduced enhanced transit service to five existing routes which have traditionally not operated on Sundays. The additional service has been added, as a result of the Province of Nova Scotia's announcement on October 4th, 2006 that Sunday shopping would no longer be restricted.

Please refer to new Sunday schedules for the following routes: #55 Port Wallace, #62 Wildwood, #65 Astral and # 66 Penhorn. Additional Sunday service will also be offered on the Route #72 Portland Hills, beginning with the next Schedule Adjustments on February 18, 2007. Alderney Ferry Service will also now be offered on Sundays year round.

For complete details, please refer to the November 26th, 2006 edition of the Rider's Guides, available on the transit system and at transit retail outlets by mid-November, visit the link (in PDF format) from the Schedules & Route Maps section of our website or contact the HRM Call Centre at 490-4000.

"Tid Bits"

- New lights have been installed in Brownlow and Ferry Terminal Park
- Improvements have been made to Leighton Dillman Park
- Kudos to Maureen Cullen, Bob MacDonald and staff for the beautiful flower beds at the Ferry Terminal Park and around District 5
- Congratulations to all those residents of District 5 who received Volunteer Awards and Citizenship Awards this year. You are great!

HRM Opens Municipal Archives



Mayor Peter Kelly marked the official opening of HRM's Municipal Archives along with, former County of Halifax Warden Arthur MacKenzie; myself and former City of Halifax Mayor Moira Ducharme.

HRM recently opened its own Municipal Archives to preserve and promote use of the Region's historical records. The new Archives houses historical records of HRM and the former cities of Halifax and Dartmouth, the former Town of Bedford and the former County of Halifax, some dating back to the early 1800s. Holdings include Municipal records repatriated from the Provincial Archives and community records donated by individuals.

Highlights from the Archives include:

- Council and Committee minutes, submissions and reports
- Ordinances and By-laws
- Halifax City Engineer's Office plans
- City of Halifax Engineering and Works photographs, 1948-1982
- Police Department records
- County Home records
- Photographs of Municipal officials and events
- Public Gardens, Commons and Points Pleasant Park Committees records

The Municipal Archives, as well as preserving the Region's documentary heritage, is a fundamental support of good governance, government accountability and citizen involvement, by providing access to previous deliberations and decisions. It is my hope that more records from the former City of Dartmouth will be located and included in the Archives.

The Municipal Archives is located at 81 Ilsley Ave., Burnside Park and is open to the public: Tuesdays 10am-1pm, Wednesdays and Thursdays 1pm-4pm, or at other times by appointment (490-4643); archives@halifax.ca. For more information, please visit us online at www.halifax.ca/archives.

Harbour East Community Council

Harbour East Community Council meets the 1st Thursday of every month at 7:00 PM at the former Dartmouth City Hall, 90 Alderney Drive. For more information, you may contact Julia Horncastle at 490-4211 or visit our website at www.halifax.ca.

Active Transportation Plan

We live in a society where people are less active, pollution is on the rise and health concerns are increasing. By providing a variety of options to the general public we can encourage a more active lifestyle and decrease reliance upon the automobile.

Many people walk as part of their journey to work, while others use active modes for the entire trip. In fact, 41% of residents who live in HRM's urban core and work in the Capital District, walk to work. However, many do not due to time constraints, lack of facilities at their destination, or concerns over safety. If safe, well-connected routes, with end of trip facilities were available, active transportation would be a more viable option for our residents.

The framework for the Active Transportation Plan, has been established by the Regional Plan. The twenty-year Active Transportation Plan, has an overall objective to create a well-connected, safe and functional active transportation network, which will take into account all origin and destination trips, utilizing non-motorized modes of transportation. For this to be successful and meet the needs of HRM residents, the involvement of several municipal departments, the Province of Nova Scotia, community trail groups, youth and senior groups, individual citizens and active transportation advocates is required. This integrated approach will allow our goals to be met over the coming years.

If you are interested in more information concerning this exciting initiative, go to www.halifax.ca/activetransportation/ for Active Transportation Updates and Maps.

Street Lights

If you see any street light that is not working or stays lit all the time, please call me to advise me of the situation. Note the civic address of the property nearest the affected street light.



HRM Kids

What is HRM Kids? HRM Kids is supported by the Halifax Regional Municipality, and is a partnership with Metro's service providers in Recreation, Sport, Art and Culture. HRM Kids' vision is that all children and youth in the Halifax Regional Municipality are able to participate in recreation activities which boost their self-esteem and promote healthy growth through the learning of new skills, increased knowledge and personal development. The purpose of HRM Kids is to provide assistance to as many children and youth as possible who, due to lack of funds, are not able to participate in sport, art, cultural and recreational activities.

Parents – is lack of money stopping you from enrolling your child in one of the many recreation programs offered in Halifax Regional Municipality? It is now possible for your child to join the baseball team, go to camp, play basketball, take an art class or enroll in a baby-sitting course.

It's as Easy as 1-2-3

- Choose a community based program of interest to your child/ youth
- Complete the application form available through Parks and Recreation
- Mail, fax, or drop off to your local Recreation Centre or: HRM Kids, Parks & Recreation, Community Recreation Services, 10 Kidston Road, Halifax, B3R 2J7 Fax: 479-1177

HRM Kids works to eliminate barriers to participation. For further information please call: Peggy at (902) 876-4364 or check the HRM website at www.halifax.ca.

KidSport

What is KidSport? KidSport is a national children's charitable program that helps disadvantaged kids overcome the barriers preventing or limiting their participation in organized sport. KidSport Nova Scotia provides funding of up to \$300/year/child for sport registration and/or equipment. For information on KidSport, call 425-5454, Ext. 350, email: kidsport@sportnovascotia.ca or check the website at www.sportnovascotia.ca/kidsport.



Due to Canada Post distribution areas, some residences which are not in District 5 may receive this newsletter. I apologize for any confusion this may cause and hope you still find the information useful.