

GREETINGS:

The past several weeks have been very busy as I prepare for the upcoming budgetary discussions. As we witness the changing state of the economy, I cannot help but wonder what impact this will have on the Municipality during 2009. Tough decisions are ahead, but we cannot expect otherwise at this time.

As for our community, the plans I have made will be followed through on. I am looking for volunteers, and also to hire artists for a number of projects this summer. Over the next several months we will begin a period of public consultation on numerous issues. There will be advertisements for these and I encourage residents to participate and have input into important community decisions.

Perhaps it is clear that I am inviting you, the residents of our communities, to become actively involved in some way. I need you to help me “build” a community to be proud of. I am capable of making all of the decisions and I will if I have to but you live here and have friends and family here, and I believe your contribution will be invaluable. You can ask me “What am I doing?” but I will ask back “What are you doing?” Let’s take advantage of a great opportunity to work together and change the face of Eastern Passage/Cow Bay. The heart and soul of our neighbourhoods and communities are the people who live here. Work with me towards a place as good on the outside as it is on the inside.

Warmest Regards,



CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

Eastern Passage Community Garden

Looking for volunteers who would be interested in planting perennials and annuals this spring and summer, and doing some ongoing upkeep throughout the summer. There will be a couple of initial meetings and then several hours over a few weekends or evenings doing labour required.

Eastern Passage Trail Group

The HRM Regional Trails program encourages community members to get involved in local trail opportunities. Volunteer community groups are often able to access municipal, provincial and federal funding sources to plan and develop an Active Transportation Trail for their community. Most trail organizations meet monthly to plan and build the capacity of their volunteers to carry out the community consultation, planning and fund-raising that is required before a trail is built.

Once a trail is built, volunteers become the stewardship of the trail and keep it safe and well maintained. HRM has staff to help resource your organization and carry out trail managing tasks. The rewards of building trails include being a part of making the community a greater place to live and visit and also

building a recreation corridor that can be enjoyed for many years to come.

Volunteers are welcome from all skill levels or if you would like to build a new skill level. Joining a committee that interests you can be a very rewarding and fun experience.

Public Relations - poster writing, brochure writing, web sites, displays, news articles etc.

Planning - mapping, measuring, photography, walking, visioning, research etc.

Community Consultation - setting up meetings, surveys, networking and gathering information.

Construction - Gathering quotes, project management, information on standards and acquiring necessary permits and approvals etc. Trail Associations exist across HRM and the Province. We invite you to join ours.

“Festival of Fire” Committee

This is an exciting opportunity to work with HRM staff and me as we plan the first ever “Fall Festival of Fire”! A commitment for a meeting every few weeks and then every week into the fall until the October festival date will be required.

Please email me at barkhoj@halifax.ca if you are interested in volunteering. As always, I welcome your ideas and look forward to hearing from you. Let’s make Eastern Passage/Cow Bay a great place to live!

I want to extend my heartfelt thanks and gratitude for the dedication and commitment volunteers bring to our community. Volunteers have a positive impact on many people in many ways and through their efforts they make our community stronger.

SEASIDE TENNIS COURT UPDATE

Work will commence in the spring with a scheduled completion date of June 30th. The fence around the courts will also be repaired once the paving is complete. This project is much anticipated and I look forward to its completion.

TALLAHASSEE YOUTH DROP IN CENTRE

The Tallahassee Youth Drop In Centre is now open. The Centre is open Tuesday and Thursday, 4:00-6:00 pm for ages 10-12 and 6:30-8:30 pm for ages 13-17. Admission is \$2 per visit or purchase a membership for \$15 and get 15 visits (membership also gives you half price admission to special events). Play video games, air hockey, fuzzleball or listen to music, watch movies or just hang out with friends. The Centre is located in the Tallahassee Recreation Centre at 168 Redoubt Way. For more info call 465-8734.

CALL FOR ARTISTS

Halifax Regional Municipality is seeking artists to design and create innovative art for several traffic boxes in the Woodside and Eastern Passage Communities. Preference will be given to artists residing in the designated areas. Chosen artists will be given a \$500 honorarium to cover artist fees, mileage and supplies.

To apply, send by email....

* contact info-name, phone number, email, street address

*3 images of past painted works

*concept description and visual of proposed design

*artist statement

Deadline for submissions

March 30, 2009

For questions or to submit your proposal contact...

Kate MacLennan

Community Art Facilitator

490-4408

maclenk@halifax.ca

2786 Agricola St

Halifax, NS

B3K 4E1

PART-TIME/CASUAL SCHOOL CROSSING GUARDS REQUIRED

Halifax Regional Municipality is looking for persons who are interested in part-time/casual employment and who would like to perform a valuable service to the community. There are some vacancies in the School Crossing Guard Program and HRM is currently accepting applications from persons interested in this type of part-time/casual work. Under the supervision of the Program Manager, the incumbent is responsible for providing a safe and secure crosswalk for elementary children at designated school crosswalks.

If you are interested, please contact Sgt. Charles Verge, Program Manager, at 490-5168.