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**COUNCILLOR JIM SMITH**  
**ALBRO LAKE - HARBOURVIEW**

**DISTRICT 9**

**ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER**

**February 2010**

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Dear Residents,

This is the second edition of a new method of communicating with District 9 residents. If you require more information or have a question or suggestion on any issue, please email or call me. If you were on my initial mailing list, I hope my first online newsletter was informative and useful to you and I hope you find this issue helpful in keeping up to date on Municipal and District 9 issues.

**Municipal Issues**

- < A public meeting will be held on Monday, March 1<sup>st</sup> at the Dartmouth East Community Centre starting at 7:00 pm. HRM is considering amending the Dartmouth Zoning by-laws to restrict new Tattoo Parlours from opening as a home occupation.
- < A public meeting regarding the Bridge Transit Terminal will be held at the Dartmouth High School on Monday, March 8<sup>th</sup> starting at 7 pm. This meeting is in relation to an MPS and zoning change required in order for the facility to be constructed on the proposed lands.
- < HRM will have a residential curbside give-away weekend event on June 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> from 9 am to 4 pm. Residents can place items at the curb that they think may be of use to other residents. The items need to be tagged “**for free**“ and any items not picked up will need to be removed from the curb on June 6<sup>th</sup>. This models events in Ottawa and Winnipeg.
- < The February theme for the HRM Traffic Unit was seatbelt and child safety seat enforcement. As part of this initiative, in January, the Traffic Unit was monitoring intersections and crosswalks and in excess of 1,350 tickets were issued during the month.
- < Also in January, HRM Police Department charged 32 persons with impaired driving. In thirty of these cases the person was impaired by alcohol while in the other two cases the person was impaired by drugs.
- < The Dartmouth area meeting regarding the first phase of the District Boundary review will be held on Thursday, March 4<sup>th</sup> in the School Board Chambers of the old Dartmouth City Hall on Alderney Drive. Council starts at 6 pm and the Boundary Review presentation will be at 6:30 pm. All residents are encouraged to attend to make their views known about the size of Regional Council and the responsibilities of your Regional Councillor. A recommendation will go from Regional Council to the UARB for a decision on any changes to be in place for the next Municipal election in October of 2012. Mayor Peter Kelly will be chairing the meeting.

**Tender Information**

- < A tender has been called for roof replacement of the Northbrook Community Centre.

- < A tender was awarded for \$74,732.62 to Asbell Management for consulting services regarding the Dartmouth Sportsplex Renewal and Recapitalization Project Phase 1 and 2. The scope of the project is to contact stakeholders and residents to determine the future needs of the Dartmouth Sportsplex. A Public Meeting is scheduled for early April at the Sportsplex common room.
- < A tender was awarded for \$775,000 to Sperry and Associates regarding the design and development of the new Bridge Transit Terminal.

### **General**

- < HRM financial staff presented Regional Council with a Fiscal Framework proposal which provides information that will help determine the direction for the 2010/2011 Budget. HRM capital debt has declined by \$70M from several years ago due to a debt strategy policy. The Province is expected to take \$112.3M from HRM property taxes this year...but the real costs will not be known until their budget is presented. It could be substantially higher. These costs are for Education, Correctional, Housing and Assessment services. Staff are indicating that we have a \$30.4M gap to fill. A number of scenarios were suggested as options for Council. At present Regional Council has not made any decision on the options or whether there is an alternative option Council may take. We have asked staff to come back with further suggested savings...separating wants from needs.

### **Recent Bylaw Issues**

- < Unsightly property on Windmill Road reported to HRM Bylaw Services.
- < Unsightly property on Albro Lake Road reported to HRM Bylaw Services.
- < The six unit apartment building at 120 Pinecrest Drive was demolished under the Vacant Building By-law. Under the provisions of the Vacant Building By-Law, apartment building owners can no longer allow a vacant boarded building to exist for periods of more than six months.

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