



The Mosher Report

District 17

Purcell's Cove – Armdale

Fall 2010



How to Contact Me

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Dear Residents,

We had a great summer. The wonderful weather enabled residents to fully enjoy our many parks, lakes and beaches in District 17. We had the 3rd Annual Dingle Natal Day Party which was again a very well-attended and fun event. At this party we had a ceremony and plaque unveiling with the National Historic Sites & Monuments Board of Canada officially naming the Memorial Tower a National Historic Site. Also this summer, Minister Prentice came to Halifax with much needed restoration funds for the Memorial Tower. We also had some more road construction projects and the continuation of the bike-lanes to Purcell's Cove. We now own the former Chester Spur Rail Line which has been transformed into an 8 km trail. I welcome you to read about some community updates on my Councillor's page on the HRM website and also to sign up for the District 17 e-news for periodic updates between newsletters. As always, your feedback or questions are appreciated. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or HRM's Call Centre at 490-4000 (open 7 days per week, except holidays, from 7 a.m.-11:00 p.m.) to report any operational issues.

Sincerely,

Linda Mosher

IN THIS RACE EVERYONE WINS!

THE GREAT STOCKING STUFFER ELECTION

SUPPORT LINDA MOSHER

SalvationArmy.ca/Stuffers
Nov. 29 - Dec. 17

The Salvation Army has been a valuable member of our community for 125 years. When you help me 'stuff my stocking' in this campaign, we'll all win! - LINDA

Think back to the Purcell's Cove area fire. We'll never forget the role the Army played.

The Army has always been there for us in so many ways - in our times of greatest need.

Call in your credit card donation before 5:00PM, Friday, December 17, 2010, to:

Leigh Anne MacDonald (902) 455-1201 Ext. 230

Or mail your donation to:
Linda Mosher's Stocking
The Salvation Army
282 – 7071 Bayers Rd
Halifax NS B3L 2C2

Make cheques payable to The Salvation Army.

Or give on-line right now and watch me WIN this campaign!

SalvationArmy.ca/Stuffers

Pedestrian & Cyclist Safety



As Chair of HRM's Active Transportation Committee, I've heard from many residents who have made it clear to me that safe walking and cycling is a major concern.

One specific concern is that cars have been parking and driving on bike lanes. When the Purcell's Cove bike lanes were installed, cars immediately started parking on them. Since

HRM does not have the legislative authority to institute an overall ban on parking on bike lanes, we would need to install dozens of poles and no parking signs so the Police could ticket. This is very expensive, time consuming and impractical. We need an overall ban which would require amendment of the Provincial Motor Vehicle Act.

In January of this year Council approved my motion to put forward a request to the provincial Minister of Transportation to amend the Motor Vehicle Act to regulate the use of bike

lanes. As we had not yet had a positive response, I met recently with Minister Estabrooks and staff from Transportation & Public Works and brought forward residents' and HRM staff's concerns. Minister Estabrooks and his staff seemed very open to discuss these safety issues, and he indicated that they were actively evaluating this recommendation. Hopefully, we will see positive action in the near future.

When I met with the Minister, I also brought forward concerns regarding excessive vehicular speeds, particularly in school zones. HRM has made a request to the province to have the ability to lower the speed limit in school zones. Currently the lowest posted speed that can be regulated in Nova Scotia under the provincial Motor Vehicle Act is 50 km/hr. In other jurisdictions, both in Canada and the U.S., there are lower posted speeds in school zones and in other areas, such as around playgrounds.

Live Webcast of Regional Council Public Sessions

Vocalocal Media, through its news site www.haligonias.ca, now live-streams regular public sessions of Regional Council.

Tim Horton's Camp Day



Tim Horton's Camp Day – Osborne Street

Community Garden



Community Garden Planting with Councillor Adams and Community Volunteers

25th Annual Greek Fest



Opening of 25th Annual Greek Fest – Halifax

Halifax Ocean Race



Route St. Pierre – Halifax Ocean Race kick off

Christmas Tree Lighting

This year's Local Christmas Tree Lighting will be held at the **Captain William Spry Centre**

December 9, 6:00 - 8:00:00 p.m.
Everyone is welcome.

*There will be a special **visit from Santa** and activities and **treats** for the children.*

Memorial Tower Designation

We had an excellent 3rd Annual Dingle Natal Day Party. The weather was beautiful and well over 1000 people came out to enjoy the activities, live band, and BBQ. During the event there was a ceremony with The Honourable Stephen Greene, Senator on behalf of The Honourable Jim Prentice, Minister of the Environment and Parks Canada, and the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada. The ceremony was to commemorate the designation of the national historic significance of Memorial Tower (commonly referred to as Dingle Tower). The ceremony was hosted by Master of Ceremonies, Theresa Bunbury, Parks Canada. Dr. David Sutherland, Nova Scotia Representative, Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, spoke on the role of the Board and the significance of the occasion. It was an honour for me to speak on behalf of HRM on the significance of Memorial Tower to our communities. Back in 2001, I asked Council for their support in seeking the designation and, with their unanimous support, HRM commissioned research to assist with our application to Ottawa. Dr. Brian Cuthbertson, Historian, conducted the research on behalf of HRM, and spoke at the dedication ceremony on the historical significance of Memorial Tower. Senator Greene made remarks on behalf of the Government of Canada. He reiterated the Government of Canada's commitment to also refurbishing the plaques and lions with their \$425,000 donation matching HRM's (total of \$850,000) restoration grant.

The ceremony ended by unveiling a plaque commemorating the federal designation. This plaque will be affixed to the exterior of the tower, and there will be an interpretative panel near the roadway that is accessible to everyone. Having grown up in this area and having had the wonderful opportunity to enjoy the park, and most importantly the Memorial Tower, it was an honour to work on this historical initiative on behalf of our future generations.



Memorial Tower Designation – Dingle Plaque unveiling and Dingle Beach party.

Chain of Lakes Trail Association

After HRM purchased the former CN Rail Line for an active transportation corridor, we formed a community committee to oversee the management of the trail. The committee renamed the trail the Chain of Lakes Trail and our group is the Chain of Lakes Trail Association (COLTA). The volunteer committee has been working very hard on your behalf to ensure this new trail is a success. When the trail construction is completed, it will be a basic trail that follows the former Chester Spur rail line. A federal cost sharing grant has enabled us to have the entire stretch of the former rail line developed into a trail. In addition, paving was done from Joseph Howe Drive to Northwest Arm Drive and the Bayer's Lake section between Horseshoe and Chain Lake Drive. The paved sections will allow HRM to perform winter maintenance making them accessible all year long to all people including those with wheelchairs, roller blades, and strollers.

We have an agreement from the Halifax Trails Association to provide \$20,000 to complete the Greenway Corridor study. This study will assess appropriate trail access points from other communities and trails to the COLTA areas. In addition,

it will assess other possible elements such as interpretative signage, benches, viewing areas and tree and flower planting that may be desired by residents. I invite everyone to get out and check out the trail and provide input on what other amenities you might like to see. Should you have feedback, or suggested future additions to the trail, or to sign up for further information, please contact COLTA at coltanewsletter@gmail.com. We meet frequently and your feedback is appreciated.



Chain of Lakes Trail Association (COLTA)

Northwest Arm Seawall Update

Previously I have provided updates on the short and long term repairs required on the Northwest Arm seawall. The Coldwater Consulting Ltd. Group has finished the “Northwest Arm Shoreline Restoration Study Technical Report” on behalf of HRM. It is impossible in this format to summarize the 100+ page report; however, it addresses the 2.2 m of deteriorating seawalls along Horseshoe Island, Regatta Point and Sir Sandford Fleming Park. Many sections of the wall are showing wave overtopping damage and some are showing signs of geo-technical failure and damage to the capstone. These damages are a result of a multitude of factors such as wave action, improper repairs over the years, inadequate sized walls, etc. It is noted that the capstones are too light to handle existing wave actions, so the waves briefly lift the stone which undermines the stone masonry. Also, the capstone is in one continuous piece, instead of sections, which would be better able to handle the settling of the wall. It also states that the height of the walls is low in many areas so there is continued wave action over the walls which further destabilizes the walls. The report includes very detailed analysis of a number of issues, including geotechnical stability, winds, and meteorological and oceanographic conditions.

The report describes a statistical analysis used to verify the suitability of existing repair methods to meet future projections of sea level rise. The conclusion included detailed recommendations and various options for each section of the seawall for long term repair and construction. It is noted, however, that parts of the Dingle seawall have failed and immediate repairs are required. I know this is no surprise to area residents; however, the report characterizes the existing situation of all sections of the wall, looks at future wave heights and actions, and provides specific recommendations for repairs to meet our long term requirements. The next steps will be for HRM to evaluate all of the alternatives and recommendations provided by the consultant and prioritize this in future capital budget years. A preliminary estimate is that it will cost at least \$4 million to repair and construct these walls to meet the demands of the next century. When further details are available, I will provide HRM’s plan of action to address this very important issue.

District 17 Recipients of the Citizenship Award



Armand Caron – Fountain Academy of the Sacred Heart; **Stephanie Robertson Kempton** – Armbrae Academy

Bluenose Marathon



Cunard Junior High School Bluenose Marathon Ipod winner, Meriel Fitzgerald

Public Meeting on Northwest Arm Seawall

Wednesday, December 15, 2010

6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

St. John the Baptist Church Hall, 26 Purcell’s Cove Road

HRM staff will be on hand to answer questions and to present findings of the consultant’s report
“Northwest Arm Shoreline Restoration Study”

All are welcome.

E-Mail Newsletter

To keep updated on current issues between formal newsletters, please sign up for the e-newsletter. To get on the distribution list, send e-mail to ruth.mcculloch@halifax.ca with the words **Newsletter List** in the subject line. Note: Addresses will not be shared.

Canada Post

Due to Canada Post distribution areas, some residences which are not in District 17 may receive this newsletter. I apologize for any confusion this may cause and hope you still find the information useful.



Please Recycle

HALIFAX
REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY