

# Downtown Works

a regular update of what's happening in HRM's urban core

February 2011 Issue

## HRM Seeks Feedback on Bike Rack Plan

HRM has proposed over 100 bike rack locations in Downtown Halifax for possible installation. Feedback is now sought from the business community on the proposed locations. A PDF map of the current and proposed bike rack locations can be [downloaded here](#).

Please email your comments to [communications@downtownhalifax.ca](mailto:communications@downtownhalifax.ca) before March 14, 2011. If you have specific questions about the plan, please direct them to Hanita Koblents, Transportation Demand Management Coordinator for HRM at 490-8474 or [koblenth@halifax.ca](mailto:koblenth@halifax.ca).

## Design a Bike Rack

Why not take a shot at designing one of those bike racks? HRM's Sustainable Environment Management Office (SEMO) is holding a Bike Rack Design Competition. Participants can enter a design for a chance to have their unique rack built on the north-east side of the Dartmouth Ferry Terminal.

The winning design will be selected by a panel that will consider creativity, artistic value, functionality and use of sustainable material. Submissions will be accepted 3 p.m.

on April 4, 2011 with the winning design announced during Earth Day celebrations (on or around April 22, 2011) and the rack will be unveiled during Bike Week (May 27-June 5, 2011). Visit the [website](#) for details.

## Dartmouth Viewplanes

On February 8th Regional Council voted in favour of recommendations submitted by staff to initiate a planning process to revise Dartmouth viewplanes. The recommendations suggest a revision and expansion of the designated viewplanes from the Dartmouth Common, elimination of the viewplane from Brightwood Golf Course, and a review of policies and standards regarding building height and form in the Downtown Business and Waterfront designations.

A timeline for the project is now being developed and details on further public consultation will be forthcoming in March. The full report can be viewed [online](#).

## Downtown Organizations

[Halifax Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Spring Garden Road Business Association](#)

[Downtown Halifax Business Commission](#)

[Downtown Dartmouth Business Commission](#)

[Waterfront Development Corporation](#)

[Halifax Port Authority](#)

[Greater Halifax Partnership](#)

[Destination Halifax](#)

[Quinpool Road Mainstreet District Association](#)

**HRMbyDESIGN**  
Regional Centre Urban Design Study  
[www.hrmbymdesign.ca](http://www.hrmbymdesign.ca)

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### **Dartmouth Bridge Terminal News**

In early February 2011, Regional Council approved a design for the new Dartmouth Bridge Terminal. The selected design incorporates many accessibility and sustainability features that were requested by the community through an extensive public consultation process, including a pedestrian link to a green roof.

The terminal will represent a significant improvement over the existing facility for both transit passengers and operators, and will be among the highest quality transit facilities in HRM and in Canada. The Bridge Terminal is one of Metro Transit's largest terminals and currently serves over 18,000 passengers each day. Construction of the new terminal is expected to begin in the spring.

The staff report including drawings can be found [online](#).

### **Universal Accessibility– Public Consultation**

Metro Transit and IBI Group are conducting four public consultation sessions as part of a Universal Accessibility Transit study for 2011. Once completed, the study will provide recommendations on how to improve the overall accessibility of the fixed route transit service. An action plan will be developed and

presented to Regional Council for review later this year. Please join us for one of the following sessions:

Wednesday, March 9  
St. Andrew's Community Centre  
6955 Bayer's Rd., Halifax  
3:30 p.m. & 7 p.m.

Thursday, March 10  
Dartmouth North Community Centre  
105 Highfield Park Dr., Dartmouth  
3 p.m. & 7 p.m.

### **Two if by Sea Family Dinners**

One of downtown Dartmouth's favourite cafes, Two if by Sea (TIBS) and the Feisty Chef, Renée Lavallée, have teamed up to create "TIBS Family Dinners". The monthly meal series will take place at TIBS and feature a unique and local menu prepared by the Feisty Chef and TIBS staffers. Upcoming Family Dinners are planned for Friday, April 22nd – Easter and Sunday, May 8th – Mother's Day.

Enjoy an alternative to fine dining with an emphasis on friends, family and an amazing community. Tickets are available by emailing [tibsfamilydinner@gmail.com](mailto:tibsfamilydinner@gmail.com). There is limited seating in the café so book early.

### **Spring Garden Road Development Takes Shape**

Spring Garden Road's newest development on the corner of Spring Garden and Birmingham Streets is one step closer to reality. The proposal, submitted by Westwood Developments, is for four storeys of commercial space. It was approved by HRM's Design Review Committee on February 10th and will be in an appeal period until February 28th. If no appeals are filed, the developer can move forward to secure a building permit and start construction.

This is the second project approved under the new Downtown Halifax Land Use By-law - regulations approved through HRM by Design. More information can be found on the [HRM website](#).

### **Central Library Public Art Process Continues**

HRM is about to narrow the search for qualified professional artists and artist-led collaborative groups to participate in a public art design process for the new Halifax Central Library. The Central Library Public Art Selection Committee will meet on February 28th to assess each submission on the basis of their qualifications including the capacity to work collaboratively with the project team, the strength of their past work and peer recognition and the nature of their approach to this project in relation  
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to the design of the building, the functional use of the space, and the community's relationship to the library.

Once this "first stage" assessment is complete, a shortlist of five artists or artist teams will be determined. The timeline for this decision is targeted for **early March**.

Visit the Central Library [website](#) for more information on the Public Art process.

### **Dartmouth Welcomes King's Wharf**

Construction on King's Wharf, a development by Fares real estate Inc., is now advancing on the first two residential buildings and currently on schedule to have them complete by spring 2013. King's Wharf will combine residential, retail and commercial elements to create a self-contained community with pedestrian friendly streets, parks and boardwalks designed to bring people together. Visit the [website](#) for more information.

### **Halifax Seaport Offers Winter Activities**

The Halifax Seaport is quickly becoming a year-round destination. Get out of the cold and enjoy some upcoming events. Events are listed below or visit the [website](#) for more information.

The Halifax Seaport Farmers' Market is open

Wed: 10a.m.–6pm,

Sat: 7a.m.–4p.m.,

Fri: 10a.m.–6p.m., and

Sun: 8a.m.–4p.m.

Until March 27 - Lace Up! Canada's Passion for Skating - exhibit

March 2 –13 - A Roll in the Clay:  
Jessica Alley and Undercurrent:  
Jennifer MacLeod - art

March 4, 7 p.m. - Feminism, Media, Design, Dr. Penny Sparke – lecture

March 4 – April 17 - Vessel: more than just a bowl for cherries...  
Marydie Fjarlie and Cynthia Jackson - art

March 16 - 27 - Professional Practice: group show - Hands: Gayle Nanninga – art

### **SmartCity Business Show**


The Greater Halifax Partnership (GHP) recently introduced a new web series produced in partnership with Haligonian.ca. Each show focuses on Halifax's strengths. Geared to be interesting and accessible, the show is described by GHP to be "not a stuffy business show".

SmartCity will be fresh, engaging and above all entertaining - industry lingo is explained in common terms with the assistance of [haligonian.ca](#) host Craig Layton. A new episode is posted every two weeks until July 2011. Fourteen episodes will be produced. Visit the [website](#) to view.

### **Architectural and Urban Design Leader Visits Halifax**

Daniel Libeskind, considered one of today's international leaders in architectural practice and urban design, spoke to a near capacity crowd as part of NSACD's public lecture series on February 10th. Celebrated for his ability to infuse innovative design with a strong sense of memory and history, Libeskind has designed a multitude of structures, from museums and concert halls to convention centres and universities, including such iconic projects as the master plan for the World Trade Center in New York and the Jewish Museum in Berlin. While in Halifax, Libeskind also collaborated to design a third-year Advanced Jewellery Techniques class project.

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### **Clean, Green Halifax Waterfront**

The pilot public spaces recycling program on the Halifax waterfront resulted in a 95 percent diversion rate for beverage containers and a combined container, paper diversion rate of 83 percent. Nestlé Waters Canada and Waterfront Development Corporation recently announced the results.

The waterfront program targeted waste, recyclables, paper and organics. Considered one of the greenest initiatives in Canada, it aligned with HRM's bylaw requiring four-stream waste collection and reinforced Nova Scotia's reputation as a recycling leader.

The successful program deployed 15 four-stream receptacles, manufactured by Big Belly Solar, along the Halifax Harbourwalk, from the ferry terminal to Tall Ships Quay. The eco-friendly receptacles feature a solar-powered waste compactor that reduces collection frequency by up to 80 percent according to the manufacturer, saving time, money and reducing pick-up emissions. The 15 receptacles replaced 51 standard garbage bins.

### **Dreaming of a summer sail?**

Make the Halifax Waterfront your next port of call. With a new berthing pass program for the Halifax and Bedford waterfronts, it's easy to sail in and enjoy the town.

The Halifax Waterfront has over a kilometer of public berth space including over 1000 feet of floating docks. Daily berthing is free with your registered Berthing Pass. Overnight berthing is available at a reasonable rate.

Contact Marine Services at [marina@wdcl.ca](mailto:marina@wdcl.ca) for your free Berthing Pass and then simply register [online](#).



[www.halifax.ca](http://www.halifax.ca)