

Downtown Works

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

May 2011 Issue

New Developments Approved for Barrington Street

On May 10th Regional Council approved two development agreements on Barrington Street - the "Roy Building" property and the "Discovery Centre" property.

The "Roy Building" project by Starfish Properties will see a mixed-use commercial and residential building at 1651-57 Barrington Street and 1652-66 Granville Street (the "Roy Building") and 5181-87 Sackville Street.

The "Discover Centre" property, to be developed by 1595 Investments Limited, proposes to retain two of the exterior Art Deco era walls of the building, facing Barrington Street and Sackville Street. Above and stepped in from these walls, a tower is to be constructed for either commercial or residential use.

To view the staff reports, including drawings of the proposed developments, visit the [website](#).

Barrington Street Thriving

Long before activity begins on the newly approved developments, Halifax's downtown will have some exciting new additions. Downtown Halifax will welcome clothing store, The North Face, and restaurants Baton Rouge, a desserterie called The Middle Spoon, Le Coquerel Bistro and EAST, by Chef Ray Bear – all opening this summer.

For more information on all that Downtown Halifax has to offer visit the [website](#). *(see following page)*

Central Library Activity

Work on the new Halifax Central Library site is set to begin in June. Site fencing will be installed to secure the property for archaeological investigation required to further the approval process. In the meantime, the project is entering the Downtown Halifax Site Plan approval process. This will include an open house on June 14th, 6-9 pm at the Dalhousie School of Architecture, Exhibition Room -5410 Spring Garden Rd.

The session is a requirement of the site plan approval process and is open to the public. It will feature displays, access to project representatives and an opportunity to provide written comments on the Central Library proposal prior to a formal application for regulatory approval.

For more information and updates on the Halifax Central Library visit: halifaxcentrallibrary.ca.

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](#)





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Permanent Oval Takes Step Forward

The RFP for Consultant Services for a permanent skating Oval on the North Common recently closed. A consultant will be in place in the coming weeks to begin the work of designing the permanent Oval, as directed in the March 29, 2011 Regional Council meeting.

Since the temporary Canada Games Oval closed in March, HRM has been preparing the site for construction and removing and stockpiling components that will be reused in the permanent Oval. These include refrigeration and pumping equipment and tubing that will be installed in the new concrete pad. The fence remains in place. Construction work is scheduled to start in early August and will be completed December 2011.

For more information and updates visit the [website](#).

Next Stage of Masonry Work to proceed at City Hall

On May 24th Regional Council approved a tender award for stone masonry restoration at City Hall. This award will allow Phase 2 of the multi-year restoration project to proceed in the coming weeks. Phase 1 was completed last winter. This phase of the project includes the restoration of the Grand Parade facade.

Tunes at Noon Calls for Submissions

Tunes at Noon is looking for Nova Scotian musicians of all genres to take part in the weekly summer concert series. Tunes at Noon takes place from noon to 1 p.m. in Grand Parade Square on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from July 13th to Sept. 2nd. A full schedule and list of performers will be announced in June.

The call for submissions is open to all genres of music. Those interested in participating should contact Colleen Connolly at connolc@halifax.ca.

Tunes at Noon is sponsored by the Halifax Chamber of Commerce, Downtown Halifax Business Commission, Music Nova Scotia and the Centre for Arts & Technology.

Downtown Core Gets a Clean Sweep on June 8th

Downtown business groups are taking to the streets on June 8th for Clean Sweep events. Join Downtown Halifax Business Commission, Spring Garden Area Business Association, Quinpool Road Business Association or Downtown Dartmouth Business Commission for Clean Sweep events in your area. Organizations and businesses interested in registering for this fun team-building event can form a team with friends and colleagues to have fun, win prizes, all while working together to help make the downtown sparkle and shine.

Teams can register in advance online for Clean Sweeps in [Downtown Halifax](#), [Spring Garden area and Quinpool Road](#) or [Downtown Dartmouth](#).

Waves of Summer Parade

This year, Halifax will mark the start of its spectacular summer season with a parade celebrating local festivals and events. The Waves of Summer parade, presented by Casino Nova Scotia, Impact Communications and Waterfront Development, takes place Saturday, June 4th at 2:30 p.m. along the Halifax boardwalk. Starting at the Cunard Parking Lot, located on Lower Water Street between Emera and Bishop's Landing, the parade will end at Casino Nova Scotia with a free all ages show on an outdoor stage beginning at 4:30 p.m.

The parade will feature highlights from TD Halifax Jazz Fest, Nova Scotia International Tattoo, Halifax Greek Fest, Lebanese Festival Halifax, Parks Canada and Halifax Pride, and showcase performances by an array of street artists and musicians. Visit the [website](#) for more information.

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Word on the Street Takes to the Water

This year, Word On The Street Halifax is moving locations. For the first time, it will be held on both the Halifax and Dartmouth waterfronts. Partnering with Waterfront Development and Maritime Museum of the Atlantic, the festival will stretch from the Halifax waterfront over to Alderney Landing on the Dartmouth waterfront. Organizers suggest using Metro Transit's ferry service for attendees to travel back and forth to visit the various vendors.

Featured activities include readings aboard Theodore Tugboat and the CSS Acadia, discussions and interviews that celebrate reading, promote literacy and enjoy our Maritime heritage. Halifax's Word On The Street is a FREE event scheduled for Sunday, Sept. 25th from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Visit the [website](#) for more information.

Halifax Jazz Festival's New Digs

JazzEast recently announced that this year, the Festival, scheduled to take place from July 8th to 16th, will have a new home. The Salter Block, which is located across from the Brewery Market is approximately 40 percent larger than its previous location on Spring Garden Road and features an even longer stretch along the waterfront's timber walk. For more information about the Festival including the recently released line up for this year, visit the [website](#).

Dartmouth Viewplanes

On April 20th, HRM planners presented various views from the Dartmouth Common to approximately 150 residents and business people. The views can be seen [online](#). The input received at this session will be used to rank the views in order of significance.

An [online survey](#) is also available through which HRM is seeking further input from the public on viewplane principles for both the Dartmouth Common and Brightwood Golf Course. The survey will be open until June 6th following which a staff report will be presented to Harbour East Community Council.

Walking Wednesdays in Downtown Dartmouth

Join the Downtown Dartmouth Business Commission for an active lunch break. Bring your sneakers, friends and co-workers for a weekly walk through downtown Dartmouth. The weekly walks started in May and will run through the summer until August 31st.

To join the walk, sign in at the Queen Street Post Office at noon on Wednesdays – rain or shine. The walk runs for approximately an hour. For more information call 466-2997 or visit the [website](#).



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