

Welcome to Halifax Regional Municipality,

# Welcome Home

This guide is an introduction to life in Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM) for you and your family as new permanent residents. This guide may also be helpful to you if you are considering moving to HRM from another part of the country or world.

Nothing will make you feel more at home than getting to know the day-to-day rhythm of our municipality – and your municipality. Inside you will discover everything from the average cost for food, transportation, and housing, to tips on finding a job. You will also explore neighbourhoods and learn how communities are kept safe and welcoming for residents and visitors alike. You will find information on where to bank, how to expand your network of friends and colleagues, and how to start a business. You will also learn about the many and varied activities that bring the community to life.

We hope the information in this guide will paint a fuller picture of the Halifax Regional Municipality and all it has to offer you and your family.

*We have taken great care to ensure that information in this guide is accurate and up-to-date at the time of printing (January, 2009).*

*For the most up-to-date information and to download a copy of this guide, please visit [www.halifax.ca/newcomers](http://www.halifax.ca/newcomers)*

*If you would like to suggest any additional resources or are aware of any errors, please contact us at [newcomers@halifax.ca](mailto:newcomers@halifax.ca)*

Photo: Emily Heinecke



Each Saturday morning residents gather at the Farmers' Market at the Brewery Market in downtown Halifax.

## Welcome from Mayor Peter Kelly

On behalf of the Halifax Regional Municipality I extend a warm welcome to you and your family.

Few places in the world can offer the range of opportunities you will find here in terms of natural beauty, community, employment, business potential, culture, education, housing, health care – in short, quality of life and a bright future for you and your children. Be it the excitement of the city or the quiet of a rural village, this place is yours to explore and make your own.

Halifax is a great and welcoming place but we need you and your contributions – as a neighbour, a parent, an employee, a business partner, a volunteer, a citizen – to continue to grow and thrive.

It is our genuine hope that this Welcome Guide and resources listed here will answer some of the most essential questions about life in the Halifax Regional Municipality and help you make it your home.

Respectfully I remain,

Peter Kelly  
Mayor



## Welcome from Stephen Dempsey

The Halifax Regional Municipality is a thriving and vibrant place to live, work, and explore. In the heart of this community lies significant opportunity, opportunity that is driven and supported by smart, educated people with an entrepreneurial spirit. People who have a genuine interest in this city's potential. People like those of us at the Greater Halifax Partnership. People like you.

At the Greater Halifax Partnership, we are dedicated to the city's economic growth and, by extension, supporting all the services that fuel that growth. Like everyone who calls HRM home, we have a vested interest in making our community the envy of the world today – and tomorrow.

We are passionate about ensuring that our economic health is second to none and that we have the services in place to make a strong community even stronger: great education, exemplary health care, effective government, and visionary leaders. We know that a pillar of our success, on all fronts, is our ability to continue attracting bright minds and open hearts to our community. We want to interest people like you in learning more about who we are and why we are so proud to call HRM home. It is with you in mind that we have developed this guide.

We are here to support your decision to move to Halifax Regional Municipality, and once you arrive, we will continue to support you and your family as you begin to work, explore, and settle in.

Welcome home.



Stephen Dempsey  
President and CEO  
Greater Halifax Partnership

