

Councillor Steve Craig

District 15

Lower Sackville



Dear Residents,

This monthly E-newsletter is to provide you with an overview of regional and local news items that you may find of interest.

In this month's overview, you will find information on the Sackville Youth Centre, Sackville Snow Days, African Heritage Month and more!

Respectfully,
Steve

NOVA SCOTIA HERITAGE DAY

Each year, on the third Monday in February, Nova Scotia Heritage Day honours a notable Nova Scotian. The holiday has a "rolling" honouree; it changes every year. For 2019 we are honouring **Maud Lewis**. A world famous folk artist, Maud Lewis painted scenes that evoke feelings of innocence and child-like

exuberance that is as enduring as the spring times she loved to paint.

UPDATE ON THE DEN

The new Youth Centre "The Den" located in Acadia Centre – 636 Sackville Drive, is currently seeing 55-60 youth a week, and have had many Sackville community members stop by to see the space. They hosted their first Youth Advisory Night in January, where they checked-in with the youth about how they are liking the space, what they can add/change to make it better for them as well as suggest various programs they would like to see happen at The Den. The space has been and will continue to be a youth-driven safe space.

Hours of Operation: Drop in hours are from 2 - 8 p.m. Monday to Wednesday

SACKVILLE SNOW DAYS

February 15-18, 2019

The Sackville Snow Days is an annual winter festival that runs during the February long weekend. Led by the Sackville Business Association, countless community groups, organizations, businesses and volunteers come together to create a weekend filled with winter fun for the whole family.

For more information, and schedule of events, please visit:

<https://sackvillebusiness.com/sackville-snow-days-festival>

AFRICAN HERITAGE MONTH

February is African Heritage Month in Nova Scotia, and we welcome you to join us as we celebrate this important event. The provincial theme for the 2019 celebration is *Our History is YOUR History*. It serves as a reminder that the unique history of African Nova Scotians is an integral part of Nova Scotia's history – our history is incomplete without this history of resilience, hope and courage.

Black Cultural Centre Display (Public Event) Thursday February 14th

Alderney Ferry Terminal, 9 am to 3pm

Black Cultural Centre Banner Display (Pop Up Museum)

Thursday, February 28, 2019 (Public Event) Race Relations, Black Experience and the Future of Municipal Government Halifax Hall, 1 pm to 4 pm.

Keynote: Raymond Tynes – Former Councillor and Mayoral Candidate from Truro

Moderator: Councillor Lindell Smith – District 8, Halifax Peninsula.

HAVE YOUR SAY IN HELPING SHAPE THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Regional Council is now hosting public discussions surrounding the upcoming annual operating and capital budgets.

While those deliberations are underway, residents are encouraged to simultaneously highlight their priorities for the upcoming year.

The [hands-on budget allocator tool](#) lets citizens share their thoughts on where tax dollars should go. By providing a unique glimpse into the experience of balancing the municipality's budget, this online tool allows residents to simulate adjusting the tax dollars allocated to various services like transit, parks, fire, and policing – and see the potential impact this has on both service delivery and the overall budget.

A report, including results from the Shape Your City portal will be provided to Regional Council prior to the final deliberation and vote on the budget in April.

Citizens will again this year be given an opportunity to speak directly to the mayor and councillors about specific priorities. Time will be set aside at the end of every business unit budget presentation for the public to provide insight and comments. Comments can be related to any aspect of the budget, not just that days' discussions.

The following dates have been set aside for business unit budget presentations at City Hall in Council Chambers:

Wednesday, Feb. 6, 2019 (9:30 a.m.)

- Parks, Recreation, & Community Services
- Library
- Planning & Development

Wednesday, Feb. 13, 2019 (9:30 a.m.)

- Fiscal & Consolidated Accounts
- Budget Adjustment List (BAL) Review

Tuesday, April 2, 2019 (10 a.m.)

- Full review of final budget

For more information on the budget process and ways to have your say, go to <https://www.shapeyourcityhalifax.ca/hfxtax2019>

empowerment and build the confidence to believe they can achieve any goal, career, or dream they desire.

The camp is free but applicants must write an essay describing how they would improve a less fortunate person's life, or their community.

Camp Courage accepts 24 participants and applications are due on March 31.

More than 60 camp graduates have moved into careers as a first responder since the camp was founded 13 years ago. Many credit Camp Courage for showing them the path to become a firefighter, police officer, or paramedic.

Click [here](#) to see the camp's wall of fame.

For more information on the camp and how to apply, visit the camp website at www.campcourage.ca

CAMP COURAGE NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

Young women across the municipality are encouraged to apply for a spot in this summer's unique all-girls first responder camp, being held July 7-14.

Camp Courage is an eight-day female mentoring camp that brings together teens between the ages of 15-19, curious about a career as a firefighter, police officer, or paramedic.

The award-winning camp is held every second year and shows teens they too can excel in these male-dominated professions. While the one-of-a-kind camp shows girls what it takes to be a first responder, the ultimate goal is for the young women to develop a sense of