

WELCOME DECEMBER!



Happy Hanukkah! Merry Christmas! Happy Kawanzaa! Happy Diwali! Happy New Year! Happy Holidays! WHEW!

What a lot of celebrating to be done in the month of December!

This time of year, our thoughts turn to gift giving. I believe the greatest gift we can give is the gift of ourselves. I have been privileged to see incredible gifts of generosity and caring over the past 12 months and it motivates me to do the best I can as your municipal representative at this time and always.

I wish you a December filled with family, friends, joy and laughter. Reach out to someone in need and offer them the gift of you - your time, compassion and assistance.

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DECEMBER MEETINGS

Regional Council Tuesday, December 13th at 10:00 a.m.

North West Community Council Monday, December 12th at 7:00 p.m.

Please confirm meeting dates and times on the <u>municipal website</u> as they are subject to change.

NWCC UPDATE

The November 21st meeting of the North West Community Council (NWCC) dealt with:

Case 22691: Amending Development Agreement for 8 Walker Avenue and 732 Old Sackville Road, Lower Sackville

NWCC gave notice of motion to consider the proposed amending development agreement to allow exterior building design changes and time extensions for the construction of two mixed-use buildings at 8 Walker Avenue and 732 Old Sackville Road and schedule a public hearing.

<u>Case 24361: Substantive Amendments to an</u> <u>existing Development Agreement at 97</u> <u>Dartmouth Road, Bedford</u>

NWCC gave notice of motion to consider the proposed amended development agreement to modify the requirements for a single-unit dwelling at 97 Dartmouth Road, Bedford and schedule a public hearing.

To view the full meeting agenda, <u>click here</u>.

DID YOU KNOW....

December 3rd was <u>International Day of Persons</u> with <u>Disabilities</u>

December 3rd was the Musquodoboit Harbour Holiday Parade

December 3rd was the <u>TD Dartmouth Christmas</u> <u>Tree Lighting</u>

December 4th was the Middle Musquodoboit Christmas Parade

December 4th was the Fall River Lions Christmas Parade

December 6th is the 105th Anniversary of the <u>Halifax Explosion</u>

December 6th is the <u>National Day of</u> <u>Remembrance and Action on Violence Against</u> <u>Women</u>

December 10th is <u>Human Rights Day</u>

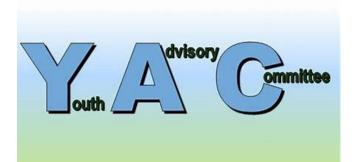
We are all equally entitled to our human rights without discrimination. Human rights are inherent to all human beings, no matter our nationality, place of residence, sex, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, language, or any other status. These rights are all interrelated, interdependent and indivisible. Learn what your human rights are, as well as your responsibilities. It has been 74 years since the United Nations made the UN Declaration of Human Rights - here are some of the global campaigns to promote our <u>rights</u>.





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RECRUITMENT EXTENDED -YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE



The application deadline has been extended for residents who wish to serve on the Youth Advisory Committee. Applications will remain open until Tuesday, December 6th at 11:59 p.m. and are available at <u>www.halifax.ca/serve</u>. You can learn more about the YAC <u>here</u>.

Municipal boards, committees, and commissions consist of councillors, residents and industry representatives. These groups provide recommendations to Regional Council, community councils or standing committees – and serve as an important part of the decisionmaking process.

Questions? Please contact <u>serve@halifax.ca</u> or call 902-490-4210.



December 2022

2023/24 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

The annual budget is a very important thing for the operation of our municipality. It funds all costs associated with servicing our municipality each year ensuring we can have our roads plowed during a snowstorm, recreational facilities to enjoy, regular garbage pickup and so much more!

The municipality's 2023/24 Budget and Business <u>Planning process</u> has now started and will continue into the spring of 2023. Over the winter, municipal business units present plans to Regional Council with their intentions for the upcoming fiscal year and outlining the required budgets to achieve their goals. During this process, Regional Council will ask questions, discuss, debate, and consider each department's proposed priorities and budget. This can result in revisions to budget plans along the way.

The <u>2023/24 Budget and Business Plan approval</u> date is scheduled for April 25th, 2023, where Regional Council will finalize next year's budget.

INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT THE BUDGET PROCESS?

You can review the proposed schedule of budget presentations, learn about the budget process, and keep up to date on upcoming milestones <u>here</u>

Here are some <u>common questions</u> and answers regarding the municipal budget, and how it is determined each year





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To learn more about the current 2021-25 HRM Strategic Priorities Plan that helps inform the budget direction, <u>click here</u>

HAVE YOUR SAY ABOUT THE BUDGET:

During every budget meeting, members of the public also have an opportunity to share their views on any aspect of the proposed municipal budget. You can speak directly to me as your Regional Councillor about budget priorities. During each meeting, time will be set aside for the public to provide insight and comments. If you wish to make any presentations before HRM Council about the municipal budget, then please contact the Municipal Clerks Office at <u>clerks@halifax.ca</u> or call 902-490-4210. Written submissions are also welcomed.

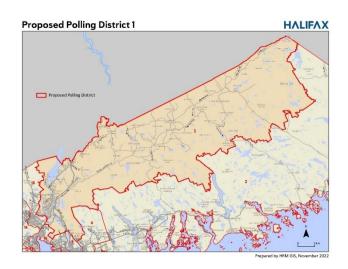
PROPOSED SCHEDULE OF BUDGET PRESENTATIONS FOR 2023/24:

Dates could change, so the most up to date information and more background on the budget process can be <u>found here</u> or on the municipal events calendar <u>here</u>.



PROPOSED DISTRICT BOUNDARIES

Halifax Regional Municipality invites you to review the proposed district boundaries as part of the <u>2022 District Boundary Review process</u>.



The District Boundary Review process will review the number of councillors and the boundaries for each polling district. Changes made from the review's recommendations will be in place for the 2024 municipal election.

The process consists of two phases:

- **Phase 1**, which determined the size of Council and its governance structure; and,
- **Phase 2**, which set specific district boundaries.

The Phase 1 report was approved by Regional Council's Executive Committee on May 30th, 2022, The Phase 2 *What We Heard* report and proposed district boundaries maps are now available <u>here</u>.





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The distribution of polling districts must satisfy the objectives set in the <u>Municipal Government</u> <u>Act</u>, including the minimum number of electors, relative parity of voting power, population density, communities of interest, and geographic size.

Thank you to all who emailed, completed surveys and spoke at Public Meetings – the proposed District 1 now looks much better!

The Executive Standing Committee will advance recommended map options to Regional Council in early December, and final recommendations will be submitted to the <u>Nova Scotia Utility and</u> <u>Review Board</u> for review.

More information on the District Boundary Review process can be found <u>here</u>.

NEW DATASETS-OPEN DATA

The Halifax Regional Municipality has released five new datasets on <u>Open Data</u>, as part of an ongoing commitment to provide public access to data created and managed by the municipality.

The five new datasets include the following:

- <u>Grass Inventory</u>
- <u>Repealed Legislation</u>
- <u>Sidewalk Winter Maintenance Areas</u>
- <u>Street Winter Maintenance Areas</u>
- Volunteer Recruitment Areas

The addition of these data sets brings the total number of open data datasets to 202.

A wide range of data can be sourced for free through the catalogue, such as transit routes and schedule data, solid waste collection schedules, and area rates. New data releases occur several times throughout the year, with the most recent release on September 28th.

The Open Data initiative was launched in early 2014 to help improve resident engagement and enhance transparency on municipal data. The program was formalized by Regional Council later that year through the adoption of <u>Administrative Order 2014-006-ADM</u> <u>Respecting Open Data</u>.

For more information on the municipality's Open Data program, and to access all the data sets, <u>click here</u>.

MENORAH LIGHTING



The 2022 Menorah Lighting and celebration of the first day of Chanukah will take place at the Halifax Grand Parade on Monday, December 19th at 6:00 p.m.

Everyone is welcome to attend this ceremony along with the local Jewish community as they celebrate the Festival of Light.

A reception will be held following the Menorah Lighting ceremony inside Halifax City Hall.





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For more information <u>contact Rabbi Feldman</u> via email or leave a detailed message at 902.422.4222.

Happy Chanukah!



RCMP ROAD SAFETY STATS OCTOBER



ONLINE MARKETPLACE SHOPPING TIPS

Halifax Regional Police (HRP) is sharing some tips to protect against online marketplace scams.

The Integrated Financial Crime Unit is continuing to receive reports of online marketplace scams. Police remind online shoppers that exercising a little caution can pay off in the long run:

- Browse the site for information on its policies, tips for safe transactions and reporting suspicious/fraudulent activity.
- Be cautious of anyone who asks for payment in advance of being able to verify that the item exists, and that the seller is the legitimate owner.
- Do not give out personal or banking information over the phone, text message, email or the internet.
- When buying or selling, meet in person to see the product and exchange funds.
- Meet in well-lit and populated public places, like a coffee shop or grocery store parking lot during business hours.
- Agree to meet in a place that you are comfortable with; don't be forced to accept a last-minute change in location.



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- Tell a friend or family member where you are going and when you will be back or take them along with you.
- If you own a cell phone, take it with you.

Call police at 902-490-5016 if you've lost money or your identity has been compromised as the result of a scam. You can report a scam where you haven't been a victim to the <u>Canadian Anti-</u> <u>Fraud Centre</u>, or through the <u>RCMP's online</u> <u>reporting system</u> or call 1.888.495.8501.

More information and scam prevention tips are available at:

- <u>Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre</u>
- <u>Halifax Regional Police fraud prevention</u>

SENIOR SNOW REMOVAL PROGRAM



There's no denying it – winter is on its way. There is a snow removal program available for seniors (65+) and persons with disabilities to help ensure safe access to your home.

The snow removal is a YMCA program provided in partnership with Halifax Regional Municipality, and oversees the clearing of front and back steps, walkways, ramps, and access to fuel tanks. Please note that the program **does not include driveway clearing.**

Those 65+ or persons with disabilities must also meet the following eligibility criteria:

- reside in a single dwelling home which is owned or rented
- not exceed a total gross household income of \$32,000, and
- may not be a landlord

The Senior Snow Removal operates on a firstcome, first-serve basis. When maximum capacity is reached, the program will come to a close and individuals will be placed on a waitlist.

Call 902-483-3678 for more information.

You can download the 2022/2023 application package online <u>here</u>.

Completed applications may be faxed to 902-423-8530 or can be mailed or dropped off in person to:

> YMCA Senior Snow Removal Community YMCA 2269 Gottingen Street Halifax, NS B3K 3B7

HOLIDAY PARADE OF LIGHTS



Come join in the fun at the Halifax Public Gardens Holiday Lights event presented by Halifax Regional Municipality and <u>the Friends of</u>





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the Public Gardens. The Halifax Public Gardens will be aglow with festive lights every evening from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. until January 1st.

Enter the main gates and follow the trail of lights as you make your way through the south-east area of the gardens to the bandstand for a spectacular light and music display.

All are welcome to enjoy this free, familyfriendly experience as part of Nova Scotia's <u>Evergreen Festival</u>.

CITY HALL HOLIDAY PROJECTION LIGHT SHOW



The <u>City Hall Holiday Projection Show</u> will run until January 1st. Shows run every five minutes from 5 :00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. nightly*. The City Hall Holiday Projection Show is part of the <u>Evergreen Festival</u>.

***NOTE**: The projection show **will not run-on December 6**th in observance of the anniversary of the <u>Halifax Explosion</u>.

IN THE COMMUNITY

I had such fun at the Fall River Christmas Tree lighting with MP Darrell Samson, Santa and Mrs. Claus!



Me, MP Darrell Samson and Santa!







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Louise MacDonald with <u>Joyful Sounds</u> and me. Jason Crowell, myself, Darrell Samson and



FRABA President Steven MacLellan.



Christmas shopping at GP Vanier Christmas Craft Fair.



Upper Musquodoboit Legion Branch 147's Gary Leslie and Brian Densmore attending the fabulous one person play Jake's Gift. Jake's Gift is a multi-award-winning play about a Canadian WW2 veteran's reluctant return to Juno Beach for the 60th Anniversary of D-Day. While revisiting the shores of Juno beach, Jake encounters Isabelle, a precocious 10-year-old from the local village. Isabelle's inquisitive nature and charm challenge the old soldier to confront some long-ignored ghosts – most notably the war-time death of his eldest brother, Chester, a once promising young musician.

At its heart, *Jake's Gift* is about the legacy of remembrance and makes personal the story behind one soldier's grave. I was moved to both tears and laughter during the performance that is now one of my most endearing experiences for Remembrance Day.





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Supporting <u>Progress Nova</u> Fundraiser for <u>We Are Young</u>

We Are Young is a charitable organization that grants unfulfilled wishes to seniors living in Nova Scotia with the clear intention of changing the way society views, values and supports our oldest generation. Through granting wishes, their mission is to raise social awareness around the inequalities seniors face, encourage respect for and appreciation of seniors, and facilitate inter-generational connection where seniors experience inclusion and belonging in our communities.

DONALD DILLMAN VOLUNTEER XTRAORDINAIRE!



I was pleased to be in attendance to honour Mr. Donald Dillman for a lifetime of volunteer service to his community and, present a plaque to him in recognition of his selfless decades of giving to others.

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The following details of Mr. Dillman's volunteerism have been provided by Betty Belmore:

- Don grew up in Wyses Corner, the youngest of four children
- he attended Lake Egmont School
- started volunteering at St. Paul's United Church in Antrim as a teenager
- moved to Elderbank in 1962 and became an Elder of St. Andrews United Church and is still an Elder 60 years later!
- was a delegate to the Presbytery conference for 38 years
- served on many committees including the Pastoral Relations Committee where he





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travelled offering support to ministry personnel for United churches all over the Maritimes

 was a member of Citizens on Patrol (COP) for 15 years. COP's is a group of volunteers who would partner up and spend time each week patrolling areas of the valley adding an extra measure of safety for the communities.

Don and his wife Barb were married for 32 years and Barb was no stranger to volunteering herself. When she became involved with the Musquodoboit Valley Tourism Association, she roped Don in to help do something and that was that. He says he was asked to lead a meeting one day and soon found himself sitting as the Chair, a position he held for a number of years.

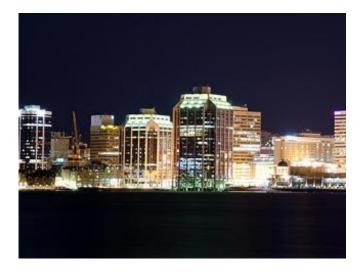
Both Don and Barb became involved with the **Moose River Gold Mine Museum** in its early days. Not a surprise to anyone, he soon became the President of the Board of Directors and still is!

When asked why he wanted to be a volunteer he said: " I just saw something that needed to be done and I knew how to do it."

A heart attack in 1994 and two stents later, Don hasn't stopped. He is turning 90 in January. His calm, unassuming manner is always such a welcome addition.

We are so grateful to you, Don!

NEW YEAR'S EVE 2022



Get your party hats on (and a nice big warm coat!) for New Year's Eve in Halifax and head on over to the Grand Parade at City Hall where all the action is and mingle with the thousands of other party goers looking to celebrate.

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The Grand Parade hosts an annual, huge, **free** party with live music from some fantastic performers, the new year countdown and fantastic fireworks display at midnight.

Full details have not yet been released, <u>double</u> <u>check</u> closer to the event for updates.

COMMUNITY HALLS / CENTRES

District 1 is home to many Community Halls and Non-Profit Organizations. Check out their website or Facebook pages to find information on local events as well as opportunities to volunteer in your community. Here is a list of some of the great organizations in our district:





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- <u>Elderbank Recreation Club</u>
- Lemmon Hill Sports Association <u>Facebook</u>
- <u>Upper Musquodoboit Nova Scotia</u> <u>Nunavut Command</u>
- <u>Upper Musquodoboit Community Hall</u>
- Upper Musquodoboit Fellowship Centre (902)568-2536
- <u>Musquodoboit Valley Bicentennial</u> <u>Theatre</u>
- <u>Musquodoboit Valley Family Resource</u> <u>Centre</u>
- <u>Musquodoboit Valley Food Bank</u>
- <u>Carrolls Corner Community Center</u>
- Meaghers Grant Community Hall
- <u>Gordon Snow Community Centre</u>
- <u>Wellington Fletchers Lake Station House</u>
- Grand Lake Oakfield Community Centre
- <u>Waverley Heritage Museum</u>
- Waverley Legion Dieppe Branch 90
- LWF Community Hall
- <u>Windsor Junction Community Centre</u>
- Helping Hands Families Helping Families
- <u>Barefoot Farmers Association</u>

For those I have missed this time around please reach out let me know and I will add to the list!



December 2022

PROVINCIAL & FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVES

The following are the <u>provincial</u> Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs) and <u>federal</u> Members of Parliament (MPs) representatives for <u>municipal district 1</u>.

Provincial MLAs:





MLA Larry Harrison Colchester-Musquodoboit Valley Constituency office: 87 Main Street West PO Box 219 Stewiacke, NS BON 2J0 Phone: 902-639-1010

Fax: 902-639-2598 Email: <u>larryharrisonmla@gmail.com</u>



MLA Brian Wong Waverley-Fall River-Beaver Bank Constituency Office: 1265 Fall River Road Suite 101 Fall River, NS B2T 1E6 Phone: 902-576-3411 Email:

brianwongmla@gmail.com



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Federal MPs:





MP Sean Fraser

Central Nova

House of Commons Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6 Phone: 613-992-6022 Fax: 613-992-2337 Email: sean.fraser@parl.gc.ca

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MP Darrell Samson Sackville-Preston-Chezzetcook Constituency Office: 2900 Highway 2

Suite 2nd Floor Fall River, NS B2T 1W4 Phone: 902-861-2311 Fax: 902-861-4620

Email: darrell.samson@parl.gc.ca

COUNCILLOR DEAGLE GAMMON



I currently serve on Regional Council, North West Community Council and the following boards and committees:

- Accessibility Advisory Committee
- Appeals Standing Committee
- Audit and Finance Committee (Vice Chair)

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- Environment and Sustainability Committee
- Executive Standing Committee (newly appointed December 2022)
- Grants Committee (Chair)
- Halifax Regional Water Commission
- Halifax Partnership (newly appointed November 2022)
- North West Planning Advisory Committee Community Committees:
- Halifax International Airport Authority
- Goffs Quarry Community Liaison
- Aerotech Community Liaison Community Committee

E-NEWSLETTER/SUBSCRIBE

My monthly e-newsletters are available on my municipal <u>website</u>. I also maintain a mailing





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distribution list, if you wish to be added to the list, please contact my Council Constituency Coordinator at: 902-490-1562 or email: <u>Chris.Newson@halifax.ca</u>.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



The Halifax Regional Municipality honours and recognizes the importance of the Indigenous people (First Nation, Métis, and Inuit) and their cultural contributions to the tapestry of our region. The municipality recognizes the significant contributions of the Indigenous people and actively work together towards reconciliation and ensuring that our Indigenous members continue to enrich the fabric of the Halifax region.

Land Acknowledgement

The Halifax Regional Municipality is located in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and traditional lands of the Mi'kmaq people. The municipality acknowledges the Peace & Friendship Treaties signed in this Territory and recognizes that we are all Treaty People.





May this Holiday Season bring you Peace, Joy, Prosperity, and a healthy New Year from Cathy, your Councillor, and Chris, your Council Constituency Coordinator.

