

# Together We Can Build Safe, Healthy, Active Communities

#### **WELCOME JANUARY**

Happy New Year Dartmouth! I hope you all had a nice holiday season, getting a chance to connect with family and friends and enjoy some rest and reflection time.

It's been an exciting time hosting the 2023 World Junior Ice Hockey Championships. Congratulations to Team Canada on winning the gold medal game, and to all the businesses and organizations who had the opportunity to receive so many visitors to our beautiful municipality.

As we enter 2023, let's commit again to making our communities united, active and welcoming places to live, work and play. It's a great time to set some personal goals, giving back to your community can really make a positive impact on your life and the lives of others — there are so many amazing organizations in Dartmouth who need help. If you're looking for new ways to get involved, please reach out and I'd be happy to connect you with a group in our area. It is such an honour to represent this community for another year, please don't hesitate to reach out if there is anything I can do to help!

# **BIENVENUE JANVIER!**

Bonne année à tout Dartmouth! J'espère que vous avez tous passé de bonnes fêtes de fin d'année, que vous avez eu l'occasion de vous réunir en famille et entre amis et que vous avez pu profiter d'un moment de repos et de réflexion. Ce fut un grand moment que d'accueillir le Championnat du monde junior de hockey sur glace de 2023. Félicitations à Team Canada qui s'est qualifiée pour le match de la médaille d'or, et à toutes les entreprises et organisations qui ont eu l'occasion d'accueillir les nombreux visiteurs au sein de notre belle municipalité.

En ce début d'année 2023, engageons-nous à nouveau à faire de nos collectivités des lieux unis, actifs et accueillants où il fait bon vivre, travailler et jouer. C'est le moment idéal pour se fixer des objectifs personnels. Contribuer à la vie de votre communauté peut avoir un impact positif sur votre vie et sur celle des autres. Il y a tellement d'organisations extraordinaires à Dartmouth qui ont besoin d'aide. Si vous cherchez de nouvelles façons de vous impliquer, n'hésitez pas à me contacter et je serai heureux/heureuse de vous mettre en contact avec un groupe dans notre région. C'est un tel honneur de représenter cette collectivité pour une autre année; n'hésitez pas à me contacter si vous avez besoin d'aide.



HARBOURVIEW - BURNSIDE - DARTMOUTH EAST



Downtown Halifax celebrations during the World Juniors!

# **MUNICIPAL BUDGET 2023/24**

The municipality runs on an April 1st – March 31st fiscal year so we are starting the process of setting our 2023/2024 municipal budget. Regional Council have already reviewed the 2023/24 budget direction report, with recommendations for tax and non-tax revenues to accommodate changing operational costs, capital investments, as well as debt and reserve changes. This month, we will begin reviewing each department's proposed budgets at a series of Budget Committee Meetings:

Business Unit	Budget Committee Date/(Contingency Date)
CAO	Friday, January 27 <sup>th</sup>
Auditor General	(Wednesday, February
Finance and Asset	8 <sup>th)</sup>
Management	
Legal and Legislative	
Services	
Halifax Regional Police	Wednesday, February 1st
RCMP (Department of Justice)	(Friday, February 3 <sup>rd</sup> )

Business Unit	Budget Committee Date/(Contingency Date)
Information Technology Human Resources & Corporate Communications Property, Fleet & Environment	Wednesday, February 8 <sup>th</sup> (Friday, February 10 <sup>th</sup> )
Halifax Public Libraries	Friday, February 10 <sup>th</sup>
Public Works	Tuesday, February 14 <sup>th</sup> (Wednesday, February 15 <sup>th</sup> )
Planning and Development Parks and Recreation	Friday, February 17 <sup>th</sup> (Wednesday, February 22 <sup>nd</sup> )
Halifax Transit Halifax Regional Fire and Emergency	Friday, February 24 <sup>th</sup> (Wednesday, March 1 <sup>st</sup> )
Halifax Regional Police RCMP (Department of Justice) Fiscal and Consolidated Accounts	Friday, March 3 <sup>rd</sup> (Wednesday, March 8 <sup>th</sup> )
Budget Adjustment List	Wednesday, March 29 <sup>th</sup> (Friday, March 31 <sup>st</sup> )

The public are welcome to participate and provide feedback in these meetings by speaking to council during the public participation section of the meeting or <a href="submitting correspondence">submitting correspondence</a> to the Clerk's Office.

The municipality is currently facing many pressures that have been unprecedented in recent history. As directed by the CAO, business units have spent several months scrutinizing their budgets. The municipality has already identified \$20m in savings through a number of efforts. During the Budget Direction Report meeting, I made a motion to aim for a 4.0 per cent increase to the average residential and commercial property tax bill rather than the originally proposed 9.0 per cent. As we review each department's budget we will be looking for opportunities to save while maintaining the essential services that make our municipality a great place to live, work and play! For more information, on the budget process check out our website.





HARBOURVIEW - BURNSIDE - DARTMOUTH EAST

#### "M DISTRICT" MICMAC DEVELOPMENT

Regional Council approved a motion to start the planning process towards developing housing in the current parking lot area of Dartmouth's Mic Mac Mall between Micmac Boulevard and Horizon Court. More information is coming about opportunities for public participation. You can find the full report here.

# **NEW HRM CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**



I am pleased to welcome Cathie O'Toole as the new Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) of the Halifax Regional Municipality. Ms. O'Toole assumed her responsibilities as CAO this month. Ms.

O'Toole brings with her more than three decades of leadership and public sector experience – most recently as the General Manager of Halifax Water, a role she has held since 2019. For full details, visit our website.



On December 16<sup>th</sup> we welcomed 20 new firefighters to Halifax Fire & Emergency.

#### **SNOW CLEARING**

With each weather event, snow clearing crews are responsible for approximately 3,844 lane kilometres of streets and about 1,000 kilometres of sidewalks!

HRM has service standards for streets, sidewalks, and bus stops and the timing varies depending on the priority level. We prioritize commonly used streets, bus routes and roads that provide access to hospitals and schools. When the snow stops, operators work as quickly and safely to have all the roads cleared by 24 hours following the storm and major roads and bus routes within 12 hours. Before contacting 311 about snow clearing, please ensure the service timelines for your area have expired. You can find detailed information about snow clearing service timelines on the interactive map or in the "when should clearing be complete?" section on the website.

If your street or sidewalk has not been cleared by the indicated time in each chart, please <u>e-mail</u> or call 311 so crews can be dispatched to address the issue. If an emergency vehicle needs to access a street, staff dispatch a plow immediately to that street. Snowfalls greater than 30 centimeters or in blizzard conditions, more time may be needed to complete clearing. The same exception may apply when there are rapidly changing weather conditions.

Crews will continue working until all streets and sidewalks are clear and safe.

The municipal overnight winter parking ban is in effect from December 15<sup>th</sup> to March 31<sup>st</sup>. The ban is enforced from 1:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. during declared weather events and snow removal operations only. Sign up for <a href="https://docs.org/length/ministrations">https://docs.org/length/ministrations</a> to receive important updates from the municipality, including Winter Parking Ban notifications.

For more information on our municipality's Winter Operations program, and tips to help you prepare for inclement weather, please visit www.halifax.ca/snow.

# **COUNCILLOR TONY MANCINI** HARBOURVIEW - BURNSIDE - DARTMOUTH EAST WINMAR

Happy to Sponsor the Metro East Inferno Female Hockey

## **VOLUNTEER WITH THE NORTH GROVE**

The North Grove is returning to full capacity programming, they provide so many amazing services to families and individuals in need in the community and they need more volunteers.

If you're interested in finding out more, attend one of their volunteer info sessions Tuesday January 10<sup>th</sup> from 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. or Thursday January 19<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. You can complete the application here and call 902-464-8234 ex. 0 to register for one of these sessions. You can also find their January program calendar here.

#### SHORT TERM RENTAL REGULATIONS

Last month, Regional Council reviewed a report about short term rentals like Airbnb. The report recommended establishing policies and regulation for short-term rentals that are currently a new land use that aren't regulated consistently. The report aims to prioritize the protection of long term housing supply and affordability while also making considerations for the region's tourism sector and associated accommodations.

Council decided to defer the report to get more information and to line up with the Provincial short term rental registry. You can find more details here.

# HALIFAX REGIONAL FIRE CHAMPION OF **MENTAL HEALTH**

Congratulations to Captain Mike Sears - Halifax Regional

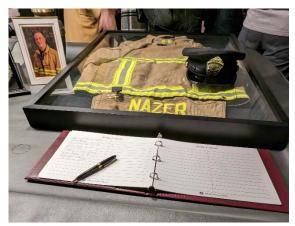


Fire and Emergency Services for being Awarded Champions of Metal Health.

Captain Mike Sears never intended to be a Champion for Mental Health. When he started

working with the Halifax Regional Fire and Emergency Services, the belief that "emotions are weakness" was prevalent in the organization. It wasn't until a few years later, after a particularly nasty call, that he came in contact with a newly-formed peer support group. A peer supporter explained to Mike that the "kicked in the chest" feelings he had after a call, might be related to his mental health. The peer's follow-up helped Mike to see that he might need to speak to a professional.

Once he had taken care of his own mental health, Mike quickly started helping others to access peer support. He referred so many co-workers that the head of peer support asked him to join the group.



Rest in Peace, you will be missed.





HARBOURVIEW - BURNSIDE - DARTMOUTH EAST



Join the NSCJA to hear a panel discuss the impact that current drug policies have on the lives of people living in our communities



**Woodlawn Library** Dartmouth



19 January 2023 10am - 12pm



Register Online or by phone

> www.hrmdruguseconversations.ca 782-321-6642





## SHANNON PARK DEVELOPMENT

This Thursday, the development agreement for the former Shannon Park Lands will be coming forward for review at the Harbour East Marine Drive Community Council meeting.

There has been extensive public consultation and interest about this development that will encompass 23 new city blocks and include 3,000 dwelling units, parkland, active transportation trails and a transit hub.

You can attend the meeting and have the opportunity to provide feedback. Join us at the Harbour East Marine Drive Community Council meeting room at Alderney Thursday, January 12<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. You can find the full staff report with details here.

# **Applications are** now open for the **Community Grants** Program.

This program provides cash grants to registered non-profit organizations and charities.

**HALIFAX** 

#### PVSC ASSESSMENTS

Property Valuation Services Corporation (PVSC) mailed the 2023 Property Assessment Notices to Nova Scotia property owners this week. Residents should expect to receive their 2023 Assessment Notice in the coming days. These assessments are conducted by the PVSC, an independent, not-for-profit organization under the terms of the Property Valuation Services Corporation Act. If you have any questions about your assessment, please contact them at 1-800-380-7775 or by email at inquiry@pvsc.ca. Property owners have until midnight on February 9<sup>th</sup> to appeal their assessment to PVSC. You can find more information here.

# **VOLUNTEER AWARDS DEADLINE EXTENSION**



The deadline to nominate an outstanding volunteer in your community has been extended to January 13th. You can find more information about this program here.

# AFRICAN DECENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECRUITMENT

The Halifax Regional Municipality is seeking adult and youth volunteers for the new African Descent Advisory Committee. The committee will advise Regional Council, through the Executive Standing Committee, on the impact of municipal policies, programs and services for People of African Descent.

The formation of this Committee aligns with the municipality's Anti-Black Racism Framework. Applications are available online and will be accepted until Tuesday, January 31st at 11:59 p.m.



HARBOURVIEW - BURNSIDE - DARTMOUTH EAST

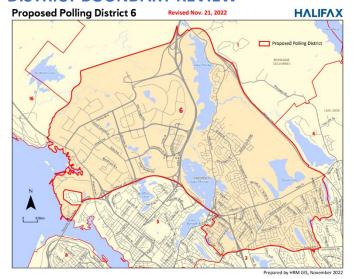
#### **EMERA OVAL OPENS**

The Halifax Regional Municipality is advising residents that the Emera Oval, located on the Halifax Commons, has opened for the 2022/23 winter season.

Free equipment rentals, including skates and helmets, will be available – along with select adaptive equipment. Valid ID is required for all rentals. CSA-approved multi-impact hockey helmets are mandatory for children 12 years of age and younger; however, all skaters are encouraged to wear a helmet for their own safety.

There will be no capacity restrictions on the Oval this season, and residents are not required to reserve a spot in advance unless you are making a group booking. A full schedule of public skate times can be found on here.

# **DISTRICT BOUNDARY REVIEW**



Regional Council has approved the proposed polling district boundaries in <a href="this report">this report</a> including some changes to the current District 6 such as Dartmouth North being shifted to the current downtown Dartmouth district. This recommendation will now be submitted to the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board for approval. The NSUARB have final approval, they will be open for public feedback. You can find out more information about the Boundary Review process <a href="here">here</a>.



Annual Holiday gathering for our Village on Main members. It was a fun evening of connecting with familiar faces and getting to know some of the people who recently joined the Village on Main Community. A big thank you to the staff at DIY Studio Dartmouth for hosting!

#### **CALLS TO PRAYER**



You may have heard some familiar broadcasts from your local mosques over the last few days. As of January 1<sup>st</sup>, mosques will be broadcasting their Calls

to Prayer twice a day. Prayer is the first pillar of Islam and the daily Call to Prayer plays a crucial part. Prayer times are not fixed but variable based on the position of the sun and time of night which changes throughout the months. In the winter, they will be broadcasting between noon and 5:00 p.m.

# **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 and Friendship Treaties signed in this Territory and recognizes that we are all Treaty People.





HARBOURVIEW - BURNSIDE - DARTMOUTH EAST

# Impaired Driving Statistics From Halifay Pagional Police (New 2022)

From Halifax Regional Police (Nov. 2022)

- In November 2022, 19 drivers were charged with impaired-related offences. 17 of these charges were alcohol-related, 2 were drug-related.
- 3 of these drivers who provided breath samples - were at least twice the legal limit.
- 1 of the drivers refused a breath sample and was charged with the offence of refusal.
- Police received 9 calls in November from citizens who suspected impaired drivers.

#### If you see a potential impaired driver:

**Call 911 immediately.** Give the call taker your location, a description of the vehicle, including the license plate number, colour, make and model, the direction of travel for the vehicle and a description of the driver.

#### JANUARY ROAD SAFETY FOCUS

This month our road safety team is promoting information about on Intersection Safety. Intersection Collisions are one of the seven emphasis areas in the Strategic Road Safety Framework, to focus resources to have the greatest impact on reducing fatal and injury collisions. We all have a shared responsibility in keeping our roads safe. Be mindful of other road users, avoid distractions and exercise caution when using our intersections. You can find more tips and information here.



We had a great community meeting to discuss expanding Pickleball facilities in Dartmouth

#### **COUNCILLOR TONY MANCINI**

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Congratulations Team Canada and all the people behind the scenes especially the many volunteers!

