



**COUNCILLOR BILLY GILLIS**  
DISTRICT 15 NEWSLETTER  
LOWER SACKVILLE – BEAVER BANK

## WELCOME SEPTEMBER!



Happy Labour Day!

Happy first day of school!

Happy first day of autumn!

As we celebrate

Labour Day, I want to express my appreciation to all labourers. From firefighters battling wildfires to street navigators assisting the homeless to educators preparing to teach our youth, thank you for your skill, passion, and dedication!

Keep reading for more information on playground updates, development on Beaver Bank Road, the Halifax Transit Survey, the Property Tax Rebate for seniors, and much more!

If you wish to discuss a municipal program or service, please contact me at

[Billy.Gillis@halifax.ca](mailto:Billy.Gillis@halifax.ca) or call me at 902.471.6906.

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## ENHANCED SECURITY AT CITY HALL



Enhanced security screening is now in place at Halifax City Hall.

Visitors entering the building, including those attending public hearings or Regional Council, are required to place any bags or loose items in a bin for X-ray screening, pass through a metal detector and present identification. These enhancements help ensure the safety of everyone who visits or works at City Hall and are consistent with similar screening processes in other government buildings.

Learn more about what to expect, [click here](#).

## SEPTEMBER MEETING DATES

Regional Council, Northwest Community Council and Standing Committee meetings will be held on:

### Regional Council:

Tuesday, Sept. 9 at 10 a.m.  
Tuesday, Sept. 23 at 10 a.m.

### North West Community Council: Monday,

- Monday, Sept. 8 at 6 p.m.

### Standing Committees:

Appeals Standing Committee

- Sept. 11 at 10 a.m.

Audit & Finance Standing Committee

- Wednesday, Sept. 17 at 10 a.m.

Special Events Advisory Committee

- TBD

## DID YOU KNOW....

September is National Suicide Prevention Month, National Alzheimer's Month and National Hispanic Heritage Month.

Sept. 1 is Labour Day

Sept. 4 is World Sexual Health Day



Sept. 5 is International Day of Charity  
Sept. 6 is Read a Book Day  
Sept. 6 is World Beard Day  
Sept. 7 is International Day of Clean Air  
Sept. 8 is World Physiotherapy (PT) Day  
Sept. 8 is International Literacy Day  
Sept. 8 is Worldwide Cystic Fibrosis Day  
Sept. 8 is Star Trek Day  
Sept. 10 is World Suicide Prevention Day  
Sept. 12 is National Day of Encouragement  
Sept. 13 is International Chocolate Day  
Sept. 13 is National Bald is Beautiful Day  
Sept. 14 is Grandparents' Day  
Sept. 15 is World Lymphoma Awareness Day  
Sept. 15 is International Day of Democracy  
Sept. 16 is National IT Professionals Day  
Sept. 16 is World Ozone Day  
Sept. 18 is International Equal Pay Day  
Sept. 20 is International Coastal Clean-Up Day  
Sept. 21 is World Gratitude Day  
Sept. 21 is International Day of Peace  
Sept. 21 is World Alzheimer's Day  
Sept. 22 is Autumnal Equinox (Start of Fall)  
Sept. 22 is Hobbit Day  
Sept. 21 is World Car-Free Day  
Sept. 22 is World CML (Chronic Myeloid Leukemia) Day  
Sept. 23 is International Day of Sign Languages  
Sept. 23 is Celebrate Bisexuality Day (Bi-Visibility Day)  
Sept. 24 is Rosh Hashanah  
Sept. 27 is World Tourism Day  
Sept. 27 is National Hunting and Fishing Day  
Sept. 28 is National Sons Day  
Sept. 28 is Police and Peace Officers National Memorial Day  
Sept. 28 is World Rivers Day  
Sept. 29 is National Coffee Day  
Sept. 29 is World Heart Day

Sept. 29 is International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste  
Sept. 30 is National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (Orange Shirt Day)  
Sept. 30 is International Podcast Day  
Sept. 30 is International Translation Day  
Sept. 30 is World Maritime Day

## WEEKLY GREEN BIN COLLECTION ENDS SEPT. 12



Bi-weekly collection will resume starting Monday, Sept. 15. To ensure pickup, please have your green cart at the curb by 7 a.m. on collection day—and remember to keep items secured from wildlife. The easiest way to confirm your schedule is by checking the Halifax Recycles app or visiting [halifax.ca](https://halifax.ca)

Thank you for doing your part to keep our community clean and green!

## NEIGHBOURHOOD ENGAGEMENT SURVEY

The Halifax Regional Municipality is inviting residents to provide feedback on how the municipality can strengthen neighbourhood connections by completing the Neighbourhood Engagement Survey. The survey is available on [Shape Your City](#) and will remain open until Tuesday, Sept. 2.

The municipality is asking residents what makes them feel connected to their neighbourhoods and what support is needed for residents to feel more connected. The feedback received will help shape future





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neighbourhood support and identify key areas of greatest impact.

For more information, [click here](#).

## HALIFAX TRANSIT CORE SERVICE PLAN 2025-27 SURVEY



The Halifax Regional Municipality is inviting residents to help shape the future of Halifax Transit by sharing feedback on a new transit plan. Residents are encouraged to review the proposed plan details and complete a survey available [here](#).

The municipality is seeking your input on:

- bus routes that need more frequent service;
- new and modified routes designed to support our growing municipality;
- your travel habits and the routes you take; and,
- feedback on long-term transit initiatives.

Residents will also be able to provide feedback through various in-person engagement sessions which will be made available on our [website](#).

Halifax Transit is developing planning to focus on short-term improvements to our transit network. Unlike Halifax Transit's previous five-year planning process, this three-year plan will allow for a more agile model that responds to the evolving needs of residents.

Your input will inform the creation of a new Core Service Plan launching in 2025.

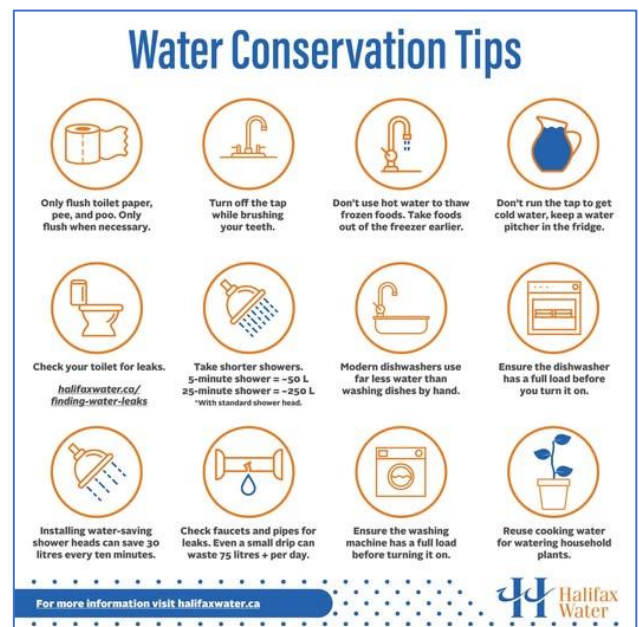
## SCHOOL STARTS SEPT. 4!



The Halifax Regional Centre for Education has 136 schools. For more information on school finder assistance, student transportation or general information, [click here](#).

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## WATER CONSERVATION TIPS



Due to the recent prolonged period of low precipitation, water levels within our supply areas have not been replenished. With no significant precipitation forecasted in the coming weeks, these levels will continue to lower.

To conserve water, Halifax Water is requesting that all customers and those who live or work within a building serviced by Halifax Water follow voluntary water conservation measures until further notice.



By [reducing our water usage](#), we can help ease the demand on our lakes/source water and reduce or delay the need for mandatory water conservation measures.

To confirm if you are impacted, click [here](#).

## PROPERTY TAX REBATE FOR SENIORS



[The Nova Scotia Property Tax Rebate for Seniors program](#) helps low-income seniors with the cost of municipal residential property taxes. The rebate amount is based on your municipal residential property taxes. Rebates are 50% of what you paid on last year's property taxes, up to a maximum of \$800. You can apply until Dec. 31, 2025.

To qualify for the rebate, you need to meet all of the following criteria:

- your 2024 municipal residential property taxes are paid in full (your name is on the property title)
- you lived at the property as your primary residence in 2024 (the property can't be someplace that you live occasionally or a seasonal home)
- you receive or are eligible to receive the [Guaranteed Income Supplement](#) (GIS) or the [Allowance](#) from Service Canada as of 1 July 2025

If you're not already receiving the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) or the Allowance, you can check with Service Canada to see if you're eligible for them.

[Click here](#) for more information or [click here](#) to apply.

## SECONDARY SUITE INCENTIVE GRANT



The Halifax Regional Municipality is offering money to help homeowners build a second unit on their property. This could be:

- a basement apartment or in-law suite;
- a backyard suite (like a tiny home or garden suite); or
- a duplex conversion (turning a single home into two units).

[The Second Unit Incentive Program \(SUIP\)](#) is part of the [Housing Accelerator Fund](#) and is designed to make it easier and more affordable to add housing in the Halifax region.

All grant applications must be submitted by June 1, 2026 for up to \$12,900 in non-repayable grants. Construction must be complete and the occupancy certificate must be issued by Oct. 11, 2026.

Eligibility:

- Must be your first secondary unit
- Applicant must be the owner (or one of the owners) of the property
- Property must be your primary residence
- Your property taxes must be up to date
- You must have a valid building permit for a backyard/secondary unit



All building permits must have an application date after March 18, 2025. If you applied for a permit before that date and it has not been issued, you can withdraw it and reapply. If your permit was issued before that date but no inspections have taken place, you can cancel it and receive a partial refund before reapplying.

## GENDER EQUALITY WEEK



Gender Equity Week (Sept. 22-26) is an opportunity to celebrate the valuable contributions of women and gender-diverse

communities while reaffirming our commitment to advancing gender equality within our organization and region.

Gender equality means that all gender identities have equal rights and opportunities.

Conversely, gender inequality, rooted in colonialism and patriarchy, connects to other forms of oppression. It encompasses issues like violence against women and the transgender community, gender stereotypes dictating how boys and girls "should behave," and limited career choices based on gender.

While progress has been made - electing a predominantly female Regional Council for the first time - there is still work to do.

## SOLAR CITY



For over a decade, Solar City has offered municipal financing for solar energy systems to homeowners in the Halifax region. We've helped hundreds of residents install solar on their

property by supporting them throughout the entire installation process.

With Solar City, homeowners borrow funds from the municipality through a Local Improvement Charge to cover the up-front costs of installing a solar energy system. The municipality provides stress-free, impartial guidance to help you through the process. Solar City lets you save big on your utility bills every month, with an estimated net savings of \$74,000 over 25 years.

You can also earn free electricity when you use Nova Scotia Power's Self-Generation Option. If you install a system with a capacity of 27 kW or less, you will receive credit for any extra energy your rooftop solar generates that you don't use to run your home over the course of a calendar year. At the end of the year, though, any surplus credits are canceled without compensation.

Combine Solar City financing with other financial incentives. No credit check is required. No penalties for early repayment. Unlock your home's solar potential today by [clicking here](#) for more information.





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### DEVELOPMENT – 326 & 328 BEAVER BANK ROAD



[PLANAPP-2024-01253: Amendment to 326 & 328 Beaver Bank Road](#)

At their Aug. 11 meeting, the North West Community Council gave notice of motion to consider the proposed development agreement and scheduled a public hearing for the proposal to increase the number of permitted units by 39 to a total of 399 within two buildings at 326 (26 units) & 328 (13 units) Beaver Bank Road in Beaver Bank.

A public hearing has been scheduled for Sept. 8 at 6 p.m. in the Council Chamber, City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax.

### SACKVILLE GEEKY MARKET



The Sackville Lion's Club invites you to the Sackville Geeky Market: a weekend of all things Geeky from Sept. 20 to 21! There will be gifts, art, comics, gaming and more!

### SMOKEY DRIVE PLAYGROUND



The playground at Smokey Drive Elementary is being replaced as part of the 24/25 Capital Projects. Work

started in mid-August and is expected to take approximately 5-7 weeks to complete.

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### LOST CREEK PLAYGROUND



The Lost Creek Playground at Heather Glen Park is now open for play. There are some grass sods to be placed when water levels return to normal. Thank you to Adrian at Dirt Road Contracting for completing this work and integrating the Lady Bug into the new equipment so it can still be known as the “Lady Bug Park.” Let the fun begin!



## COUNCILLOR BILLY GILLIS

LOWER SACKVILLE - BEAVER BANK

### SPORT COURTS AT BEAVER BANK KINSAC



The Sports Court upgrades at Beaver Bank-Kinsac Elementary are now complete and open for play. Enjoy!

### ACADIA HALL – CONCERT IN THE PARK

**CONCERT IN THE PARK**  
ACADIA HALL GRANDSTAGE | SEPT 7 - 5-8 PM

**FATHER AND SONS**



NO ALCOHOL PERMITTED | BRING YOUR OWN CHAIRS & BLANKETS | WASHROOMS AVAILABLE ON SITE UNTIL 8PM

**SPECIAL PERFORMANCE BY MICHELLE CALDER**



**THE MAKER NEWS**

**OAGLEY MEDIA**

**50/50 & DONATIONS IN SUPPORT OF:**

**Five Little Monkeys Entertainment**

**Land Lease Residents**  
Nova Scotia | Non-Profit Society

**HALIFAX**



**Woodbine Community**  
Nova Scotia | Non-Profit Society

SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR COMMUNITY SUPPORTERS



### NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION



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In its commitment to reconciliation and ensuring that the tragic history and ongoing legacy of residential schools is never forgotten, the Government of Canada passed legislation to make Sept. 30 a federal statutory holiday called the [National Day for Truth and Reconciliation](#).

Formerly known as Orange Shirt Day, this day provides an opportunity to recognize and commemorate the legacy of residential schools and provides a day of quiet reflection or participation in a community event.

Read the [Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Final Report](#) and think about how you can implement the Calls to Action in your own life.

### IN THE COMMUNITY







# COUNCILLOR BILLY GILLIS

LOWER SACKVILLE - BEAVER BANK



I was thrilled to attend the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Wolves Cup Lacrosse Tournament kick-off at the Sackville Arena celebrating the game, community and culture with Indigenous cultural displays and the proposed design for the new Lacrosse Facility to be located in the heart of Lower Sackville.



I was pleased to sponsor the Aug. 12 Fultz House Museum Tuesday Tea with catering by [Building Futures](#). Great to see everyone out supporting local heritage.







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Had a great time at the Halifax Dartmouth Natal Day parade with fellow Council colleagues Laura White, Sam Austin, Janet Steele, Nancy Hartling, me, Jean St-Amand and Deputy Mayor Tony Mancini (on the float).



Deputy Mayor Tony Mancini on the HRM Float during Halifax Dartmouth Natal Day Parade.



I had a chance to get together with representatives from all three levels of Government to discuss priorities for our Community. Collaboration is the key to moving forward together to create a complete community. (LtoR): MLA Paul Wozney, MLA Brad Johns, me, MP Braedon Clark.



Great attendance at the Aug. 9 Summer Movie in the Kinsmen Park.





## COUNCILLOR BILLY GILLIS

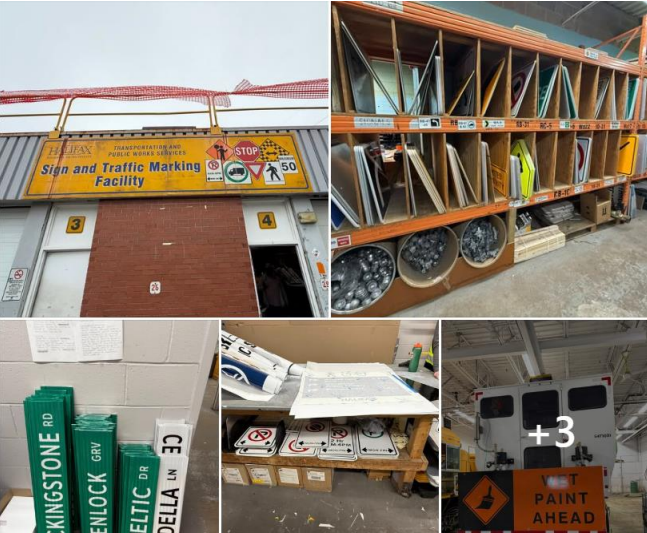
LOWER SACKVILLE - BEAVER BANK

Attended the Community BBQ hosted by MLA Paul Wozney at Kinsmen Park. Great time with local residents!

## PROVINCIAL AND FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVES

Not sure what level of government does what? See the chart below to help determine which level you need to contact for assistance.

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I toured the HRM Sign & Traffic Marking Facility with Councillor Jean St-Amand. Did you know that HRM has over 4,200 kms of roads and over 1 million signs to maintain and manufacture, with most of the signs made in house? We also got to check out our new Line Painting Vehicle that utilizes environmentally friendly paint. They did not let me take any signs (or truck) back to Sackville- Beaver Bank!



It was wonderful to hear from residents at the Lucasville Town Hall hosted by Mayor Andy Fillmore with Councillor John Young and I. Thank you to all who came out (standing room only)! I appreciate your concerns and will do my best to address each one.



**Provincial Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs)** representing the Lower Sackville – Beaver Bank area are:



Paul Wozney  
Sackville-Cobequid

Unit 104, 445 Sackville Drive  
Lower Sackville NS B4C 2S1

Phone: 902-864-6271

Email: [paulwozneymla@gmail.com](mailto:paulwozneymla@gmail.com)





## COUNCILLOR BILLY GILLIS

LOWER SACKVILLE - BEAVER BANK



Brian Wong  
Waverley-Fall River-  
Beaver Bank

1265 Fall River Road  
Suite 101  
Fall River, NS

B2T 1E6

Phone: 902-576-3411

E-mail: [brianwongmla@gmail.com](mailto:brianwongmla@gmail.com)

**Federal Members of Parliament (MPs)**  
representing the Lower Sackville-Beaver Bank  
area are:



Braedon Clarke  
Sackville-Bedford-Preston

Suite 201  
2900 Hwy 2  
Fall River

Email: [info@parl.gc.ca](mailto:info@parl.gc.ca)

Toll-free (Canada): 1-866-599-4999

Telephone: 613-992-4793

TTY: 613-995-2266

## HALIFAX WATER



**STRAIGHT from  
the SOURCE**

Between 2019 and 2049, Halifax Water plans to invest about \$4 billion to upgrade infrastructure to ensure the continued delivery of high-quality water, wastewater and stormwater services to benefit customers and the environment.

To see a list of major Halifax Water projects, click [here](#).

### 24-Hour Emergency Service

Call 902-420-9287 for water, sewer, and flooding emergencies.

### Customer Care Centre

902-420-9287

Hours of Operation: Monday to Friday from 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM

Email: [customercare@halifaxwater.ca](mailto:customercare@halifaxwater.ca)  
(please allow up to three business days for a reply)

#### Head Office Address

450 Cowie Hill Road  
Halifax, NS

#### Mailing Address

Halifax Water  
PO Box 8388, RPO CSC  
Halifax, NS  
B3K 5M1

Head Office Hours of Operation: Monday - Friday, 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

As a regulated public utility, [Halifax Water](#) must conduct business in accordance with the Halifax Water Regulations as approved by the [Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board](#) – now the [Nova Scotia Energy and Regulatory Boards Tribunal](#). These can be used to help you determine if we have applied an approved practice. Halifax Water will respond to concerns and complaints about:

- Billing
- Metering and meter reading
- Application of standard charges
- Misuse of water resources, sanitary, or stormwater systems
- Halifax Water staff or service delivery

Formal complaints can be sent to:

Halifax Water  
Complaints Department  
P.O. Box 8388, RPO CSC  
Halifax, NS B3K 5M1

Email: [customercare@halifaxwater.ca](mailto:customercare@halifaxwater.ca).



## COUNCILLOR BILLY GILLIS

LOWER SACKVILLE - BEAVER BANK

If you are not happy with Halifax Water's response, you may make an appeal to the [Dispute Resolution Officer](#) (DRO).

The Dispute Resolution Officer is an independent officer (not an employee of Halifax Water or the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board) who manages regulation-based customer issues.

- Appeals Standing Committee
- Audit & Finance Standing Committee
- Special Events Advisory Committee

HAPPY LABOUR DAY!



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## HRM'S LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

### 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.

Halifax is committed to strengthening its relationship with Indigenous communities and honouring the significant contributions of Indigenous peoples. Another way the municipality has demonstrated this is by formalizing the official Land Acknowledgement.

In Nova Scotia, we are all Treaty People; with that comes roles and responsibilities.

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL – SEPT. 4



## COUNCILLOR BILLY GILLIS



**Councillor Billy Gillis**

**District 15**  
Lower Sackville – Beaver Bank

902-471-6906  
[billy.gillis@halifax.ca](mailto:billy.gillis@halifax.ca)

Halifax Regional Municipality  
PO Box 1749 | Halifax, NS B3J 3A5

HALIFAX

[halifax.ca](http://halifax.ca) | 311

I am a member of Halifax Regional Council and the North West Community Council and serve on the following boards and committees:

HAPPY FIRST DAY OF FALL!

