



COUNCILLOR BECKY KENT
DISTRICT 3 ONLINE NEWS
DARTMOUTH SOUTH - EASTERN PASSAGE



MESSAGE FROM BECKY

I'll start off by extending a huge "Thank You" to the residents of District 3 for your amazing support in my election to Council. As well, I wish you a wonderfully productive and safe 2021. I am truly honoured to be elected as your Councillor, and I am looking forward to being your voice on Council to help make our communities a great place to live, work and play.

Thanks for signing up for my monthly newsletter. It's a work in progress. I am open for feedback on issues and items you would like to see regularly in any particular month. Send me a note or give me a call. I would love to hear from you.

Currently there are particular challenges for elected officials, and certainly for me, as a people person to engage and chat. I miss the opportunities to meet in person and getting to know you. So we have to find new ways. One way is through this newsletter, local media, social media and online meetings. Please note that I will be using social media for sharing information only. I will not be debating my work or council work on social media. All issues should be sent to me via email or through phone calls.

I am working with staff to create a schedule of community online meetings where I can discuss issues/decision making/policy development, and hear about the things that are important or concerns you. Stay tuned for more information on that.

I hope you find this helpful and I hope you stay well and safe.

Warmly,



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PRIORITY ISSUES

During my campaign, I heard from many of you that these issues matter to you. This is what I heard and now you can confirm. Of course, these are part of many other issues that I will work on. If you have any that you want added please email me directly.

- Priority Advocating for traffic calming on streets of District 3. (Baker Dr, Dorothea Dr, Portland Hills Dr, Pleasant St, Shore Rd, Cow Bay and Dyke Rds, Hornes Road, are just a few)
- Advocate for the completion of the Mt. Hope Connector Road to Caldwell Rd.
- Advocate for lake water quality testing in District 3.
- Advocate for access to the waterfront in Woodside area near the old refinery.
- Address odour concerns at the EP Waste Treatment Plant area.
- Advocate for crosswalk at Fisherman's Cove area and Baker Drive near Lindenwood Terrace
- Advocate for sidewalks and bike lanes in Cow Bay.
- Work with the community and HRM staff to address ongoing concerns raised with coastal erosion and access to Silver Sands Beach.
- Advocate for community engagement on development projects in District 3.
- Advocate for environmental sustainability and climate change actions.
- Advocate for Transit between communities of Eastern Passage and Cole Harbour, to include Cow Bay.
- Work with the community to ensure access to Councillor engagement on issues, projects, initiatives and challenges in all areas of District 3, by

offering opportunities for good dialogue within restrictions of COVID-19.

- Support community groups and agencies who offer unique and important resources to our communities.
- Champion HRM contributions to Housing and Homelessness crises.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to me to discuss any one of these issues, or how you would like to be a part of seeing any of these initiatives move forward. Your input, ideas and support is much appreciated!

EASTERN PASSAGE OFF LEASH SURVEY

Eastern Passage was recognized as a priority area for a new dog off-leashed area (OLA).

Staff have identified four potential locations each with unique opportunities and constraints. We want your feedback, concerns, and location preferences. A survey will be open until January 18th, 2021. For more information, and to take the survey please visit the link [here](#)

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Morris Lake as seen from Birches Park



WHAT HRM BOARDS AND COMMITTEES IS YOUR COUNCILLOR ON?

In addition to Regional Council, I currently sit on the following Boards and Committees:

Harbour East Marine Drive Community Council (Vice Chair)

Transportation Standing Committee (Vice Chair)

Board of Police Commissioners

Halifax Water Board of Commissioners

Appeals Standing Committee

More information on Boards and Committees, including meeting dates and times can be found [here](#).

FEBRUARY 2021 REGIONAL COUNCIL SCHEDULE

Due to COVID-19, Regional Council and Budget Committee meetings are currently being held virtually. To watch Regional Council online, visit our [website](#) and click the video link on the meeting agenda to “watch on web” and enter the webcast by selecting ‘join anonymously’.

Regional Council - Tuesday, February 9th 10 a.m.

Regional Council - Tuesday, February 23rd 10 a.m.

DISTRICT ACTIVITY AND DISTRICT CAPITAL FUNDS

Each fiscal year, all districts are allocated funds that Councillors can designate for community benefit. District Funds are comprised of both Capital and District Activity funding. District Capital funds can provide a grant to any non-profit organization or charity or provide funding for HRM projects that are in the HRM departmental operating or capital budget or proposed by the Councillor. District Activity Funds provide small grants to non-profit organizations and registered charities for local initiatives, including by way of advertising with such entities.

For more information on fund policy, the application form, and fund expenditure spreadsheets visit my webpage [here](#) or you can call my office at **902-490-1577** if you have any questions on how to apply, or if your request would meet the criteria.

COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM

The 2021 Community Grants Program is now open. The deadline for applications is March 31, 2021. This program provides annual cash grants to registered non-profit organizations and charities located throughout the Halifax region. There are two types of grants:

- a project grant of up to \$5,000
- a capital grant of up to \$25,000



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At present, the Program provides assistance to specific types of projects in the following categories:

Arts and Crafts, Diversity and Inclusion, Environment, Emergency Assistance and Neighbourhood Safety, History and Housing.

Please visit our [website](#) for the program guidebook and application form.

SAFE SKATING CONDITIONS

Halifax Regional Fire & Emergency are urging residents to make sure ice is thick enough before venturing out for a skate or hike on lakes across the region. Temperatures often drop and increase variably from day to day, which can impact ice thickness. Ice should be at least 15 centimeters thick for individual skating, and at least 20 centimeters thick for group skating



WINTER OPERATIONS AND SNOW REMOVAL STANDARDS



Here's a snapshot of Winter Snow Operations. For more info follow the links.

With each weather event, crews are responsible for approximately:

- 3,844 lane kilometers of streets
- 1,000 kilometers of sidewalks
- 2,300 bus stops across the Halifax region.

The municipal service standards identify priority levels and timelines for clearing [streets](#) and [sidewalks](#).

Use our [WINTER MAINTENANCE](#) map to find out which level of government is responsible for your street.

Service standards

Crews work as fast as they safely can in difficult conditions and plan their routes according to the priority levels and timelines approved by Regional Council.

Before contacting 311 to report snow and ice clearing issues, **please check the service timelines for [streets](#) and [sidewalks](#)** to confirm when *clearing should be completed*.

Please wait until the service timeline has expired before contacting 311.

Snowfalls greater than 30 centimetres, blizzard conditions, or rapidly changing weather conditions may require more time

Salt

As part of the municipality's [salt management strategy](#), is done by preparing the streets in advance with rock salt, brine or a mixture of the two.

[Direct liquid application \(DLA\)](#) minimizes the bond that forms between the surface of the road and snow or ice, similar to using cooking spray to prevent food from sticking to the pan.



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Crews evaluate the weather forecast and choose the best method to prepare streets for snow and ice to maintain clear, safe roadways throughout a weather event.

FREE MENSTRUAL PRODUCTS AT HRM FACILITIES

HRM will now be offering free menstrual products at municipal recreation facilities, community centres, and Halifax Transit terminals.

This initiative aligns with the municipality's commitment to reducing poverty through the Building Poverty Solutions report developed in collaboration with United Way Halifax. Further, the municipality is committed to building healthy, live-able communities, where necessary health products are easily available for people who menstruate.

Tampons and sanitary pads will be available and restocked daily. Products will be available at the locations found [here](#)

HALIFAX WATER CUSTOMER CONNECT

I am pleased to let you know that Halifax Water customers can now access their Halifax Water accounts and a suite of services online through Customer Connect. Some of the advantages are 24/7 access to your account from your computer or mobile device, viewing past and present bills, monitoring your usage, sign up for notifications, view account information and initiate service requests. This is another step in going paperless and reducing waste. Sign up for Customer Connect with ease by visiting their

[website](#) and clicking the "My Account" button in the menu bar at the top of the page.

SOLID WASTE COLLECTION SCHEDULE

The Halifax Regional Municipality is advising residents that the 2021 Solid Waste collection schedule will not be mailed out this year. This change is due to budget constraints as a result of COVID-19 as well as a continued effort to reduce waste.

Residents can:

- Access a PDF of the 2021 Solid Waste Collection Schedule [online](#)
- Create a custom collection calendar [online for printing](#)
- Download the Halifax Recycles app to view the collection calendar
- Request to have the Solid Waste collection schedule mailed to them by calling 311

For more information, visit halifax.ca/recycle

CONTACT

Should you wish to discuss municipal services or programs, please contact me at **becky.kent@halifax.ca or 902-478-5368**. For routine municipal matters, please call our Citizen Contact Centre at 311.

To reach my office, please call Nadine Yuriev at **902-490-1577**.

For information on all things municipal, please visit our [website](#).