



COUNCILLOR TONY MANCINI

DISTRICT 6 ONLINE NEWS

HARBOURVIEW - BURNSIDE - DARTMOUTH EAST

Together We Can Build Safe, Healthy, Active Communities

WELCOME JANUARY

Happy New Year District 6! 2020 has been a difficult year for our province, not only are we still facing the second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic, tragedies like the Portapique mass murder, military helicopter crash, disappearance of 3-year-old Dylan Ehler, snowbird crash and the recent loss of five scallop fisherman have had a lasting effect on our communities. Despite all this, Nova Scotians have remained strong – we have cherished our families more closely, given back to those less fortunate and are finding happiness in the simple things.

As we enter 2021, it is my hope that we will be able to continue to grow from these experiences. Let's work together to make 2021 the best year yet for District 6 and our municipality as a whole!

OUTDOOR ICE SKATING SAFETY

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.

BIENVENUE EN JANVIER

Bonne année, district 6! 2020 a été une année difficile pour notre province, non seulement nous sommes toujours confrontés à la deuxième vague de la pandémie COVID-19, mais des tragédies comme le meurtre de masse de Portapique, l'écrasement d'un hélicoptère militaire, la disparition de Dylan Ehler, 3 ans, l'écrasement d'un oiseau des neiges et la perte récente de cinq pêcheurs de pétoncles ont eu un effet durable sur nos communautés. Malgré tout cela, les Néo-Écossais sont restés forts – nous avons chéri nos familles de plus près, nous avons rendu à ceux qui sont moins fortunés et nous trouvons le bonheur dans les choses simples.

À l'aube de 2021, j'espère que nous pourrions continuer à nous développer grâce à ces expériences. Travaillons ensemble pour faire de 2021 la meilleure année à ce jour pour le district 6 et notre municipalité dans son ensemble!





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Thank you to the North Grove, all your volunteers, staff and donors who made this holiday season bright for 400 community members who received holiday meals. The North Grove has distributed over 18,000 meals since the pandemic shut down! Learn more about this amazing organization [here](#).

WINTER RECREATION PROGRAMS

Winter recreation programs will be returning across the region. Registration begins at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday January 6th for dryland programs and Thursday January 7th for swimming and aquatics programs.

The safety and health of our staff and residents are of the utmost importance. Be assured that we have been closely following the recommendations of Public Health. To help stop the spread of COVID-19 we have implemented [several new measures for our facilities](#). All participants must follow the Provincial Public Health Guidelines.

Participants are encouraged to register by phone at (902)-490-6666 or [online](#).

Check out our [website](#) for more details.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING CATEGORY FOR SURPLUS HRM PROPERTY

Regional Council has directed the Chief Administrative Officer to adopt amendments to Administrative Order 50 to include a new affordable housing category.

The proposed category would permit Regional Council to designate surplus property with the potential to be used for affordable housing purposes for sale at below-market-value disposal. You can find more detail in [Attachment 2 of this report](#).

The amendments will be effective on March 1, 2021 to allow staff time to develop the submission requirements and program criteria necessary to implement them.

EMERA OVAL OPENING

The Emera Oval will open for the winter season on Monday, January 4th, weather and ice conditions permitting.

The Emera Oval will have a reduced capacity to follow current public health guidelines. Due to COVID-19, skaters must pre-register for free public skate times [online](#) or by phone at 902-490-4666. Skaters will be able to register two days in advance and there will be no group or school bookings for this season.

The ice surface will be open for free daily public skates throughout the winter. Residents are encouraged to check the online calendar to book their time. Get the latest information and a schedule of events at halifax.ca/skateHRM

SQUARE ROOTS

Square Roots is a non-profit organization that aims to reduce food waste and food access challenges by providing free or low cost 10lb produce bundles. We launched this program in East Dartmouth last Spring. If you are interested in helping out or are in need of a free produce bundle, we will be providing deliveries on Saturday, January 16th and Saturday January 30th. Check my [social media](#) for more details closer to those dates.



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BUDGET COMMITTEE

Regional Council will be beginning to deliberate on the 2021/2022 municipal operating and capital budget this month. Budget Committee Meetings will review presentations for each department and provide direction for their budgets:

Business Unit	Date
2021-2025 Strategic Priorities Plan Chief Administrative Officer Presentation	January 12 th
Fiscal Framework Report	January 13 th
Strategic Initiative Funding Report	January 20 th
Capital Budget Recommendations	January 26 th
Administrative Services Budget – Chief Administrative Officer, Legal Services, Human Resources and ICT	February 3 rd
Library Budget Auditor General Office Budget	February 5 th
Parks and Recreation Budget	February 10 th
Planning and Development Budget	February 17 th
Halifax Transit Budget	February 24 th
Corporate Customer Service Budget	February 26 th
Transportation and Public Works Budget	March 3 rd
Halifax Regional Police Budget	March 5 th
Halifax Regional Fire and Emergency Budget	March 10 th
Consolidated Accounts and Budget Adjustment List review	March 24 th
Final Budget Approval	April 20 th

Last month, we reviewed the strategic priorities for this council term including economic development, service delivery, healthy livable communities, social development, governance and engagement and transportation. You can find more information on the strategic plan [here](#).

You can provide your feedback by sending your comments to the Clerk’s Office (PO Box 1749 Halifax, NS B3J 3A5 or Clerks@halifax.ca). You can also view the meetings online by getting the links [here](#). Make sure to check our website for any schedule changes.

Dr. Strang was recognized by the Lieutenant-Governor for Excellence in Public Administration. Please join me in saying thank you & congratulations to Dr. Strang.





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WINTER OPERATIONS UPDATE



The municipal overnight winter parking ban will be in effect again this winter season from Tuesday, December 15th through Wednesday,

March 31st, 2021.

As in previous seasons, the ban will be enforced between 1:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m., during declared weather events and extended clearing operations only. Residents are encouraged to plan ahead when snow is in the forecast and secure off-street parking for when the overnight parking ban is enforced.

When and where you park this winter can have a big impact on snow clearing. The easiest way to stay informed about the status of overnight winter parking bans is to register for automated notifications by [signing up online](#) or checking Halifax.ca for updates. Subscribers will receive timely alerts by phone, email, and/or text message when the ban is in effect and again when it is lifted.

The municipality wants to remind residents that Section 139 of the [Nova Scotia Motor Vehicle Act](#) also requires that people remove their vehicles from the streets, day or night, in the event of a weather event or ongoing clearing operations. Vehicles obstructing snow removal or winter maintenance operations can be removed at the owner's cost, regardless of the time or date.

To help avoid a ticket, and the hassle and costs of being towed, residents should ask themselves these four questions when considering parking on the street this winter:

- Is the overnight parking ban currently being enforced?
- Is your car causing a safety issue?
- Is it making the road impassable?
- Is it impeding snow operations underway in the area?

If the answer to any of these questions is yes, do not park on the street. The municipality doesn't want to ticket or tow — the objective is to keep vehicles off the streets to facilitate efficient and safe clearing. This, in turn, ensures emergency vehicles, buses and other traffic have proper access.

Planters, lawn decorations and any other portable objects near the sidewalk should also be removed before the winter. Items like sports equipment that may still be used should be safely stored when bad weather is in the forecast. Any permanent structures or objects too big to move should be marked with a reflector that will be visible above the snow to help crews identify obstacles.

Officers will be ticketing vehicles obstructing sidewalk clearing. Vehicles hanging out of a driveway or parked on the sidewalk are prone to damage and become a dangerous obstacle for crews. Such obstacles prevent crews from clearing the sidewalks properly, which can quickly become an accessibility issue for pedestrians, including seniors, people with mobility issues and parents pushing strollers.

Never clear snow from your property onto the street or sidewalk. Property owners must ensure the snow they clear is piled on their own property. It is against [By-Law S-300](#) to throw or pile snow in the street or on the sidewalk. This is a serious problem that can cause safety issues for pedestrians and other users as it complicates clearing for crews. The municipality has [enforcement](#) in place to address non-compliance with the by-Law.

The municipality has also launched an updated interactive map that allows users to view street, sidewalk, walkway, bridge and bus stop snow clearing priority levels. To learn more visit our [website](#).

When there is a snow event, the municipality are working as quickly as we can to clear the streets and sidewalks. Check out this short [video](#) that goes over some of the logistics we face.

Think before you park this winter — it will help make the season a little easier on everyone. For more information on municipal winter operations, please visit our [website](#).



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FREE MENSTRUAL PRODUCTS

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

Tampons and sanitary pads will be available and restocked daily. Products will be available at the following locations:

- Acadia Centre
- Bedford Hammonds Plains Community Centre
- Lakeside Community Centre
- Captain William Spry Community Centre
- Chocolate Lake Community Centre
- Dartmouth North Community Centre
- Findlay Community Centre
- George Dixon Community Centre
- Gordon R. Snow Community Centre
- LeBrun Recreation Centre
- Needham Community Centre
- North Preston Community Centre
- St. Andrew's Community Centre
- Sackville Sports Stadium
- Emera Oval Pavilion
- St. Mary's Boat Club
- Alderney Ferry Terminal
- Woodside Ferry Terminal
- Halifax Ferry Terminal
- Lacewood Terminal
- Bridge Terminal
- Sackville Terminal

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, livable communities, where necessary health products are easily available for people who menstruate.

SUPPORT BRYONY HOUSE

The Bryony House provides support for women and children who have been in abusive situations. They are building a new shelter to help these people and have started a special fundraiser to allow residents to purchase items that will furnish the shelter. You can find more detail [here](#). The new shelter is expected to open Fall 2021.

IMPAIRED DRIVING STATISTICS

Halifax Regional Police charged 27 drivers with impaired related offences during the month of November.

Police received nine calls throughout the month of November from citizens who suspected impaired drivers. We thank citizens for calling in suspected impaired drivers and encourage citizens to call 911 immediately if you suspect someone is driving impaired. Here are some signs of an impaired driver:

- Driving unreasonably fast, slow or at an inconsistent speed
- Drifting in and out of lanes
- Tailgating and changing lanes frequently
- Making exceptionally wide turns
- Changing lanes or passing without sufficient clearance
- Overshooting or stopping well before stop signs or stop lights
- Disregarding signals and lights
- Approaching signals or leaving intersections too quickly or slowly
- Driving without headlights, failing to lower high beams or leaving turn signals on
- Driving with windows open in cold or inclement weather

If you do see a potential impaired driver, call 911 immediately and give the call taker your location along with 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.



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CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to members of our Planning and Development’s Regional Planning team, who received the [Atlantic Planners Institute](#) (API)’s Planning Excellence Award in the category of Comprehensive Policies and Plans for their work on the [Old South Suburb Heritage Conservation District Plan](#).

The Old South Suburb was adopted as the municipality’s third heritage conservation district in 2020, encompassing a large historic neighbourhood within downtown Halifax. Most importantly, the Old South Suburb Plan represents a success in its ability to achieve consensus among residents, stakeholders and the development community. Significant public consultation took place in advance of the plan, which resulted in unanimous support from Regional Council in January 2020.

On behalf of Planning & Development, Seamus McGreal, Planner; Aaron Murnaghan, Principal Planner; and Kurt Pyle, Program Manager, Social & Heritage would like to extend gratitude to the various Business Units across the organization whose support was integral to the success of this initiative.

OPEN DATA ON TRAFFIC COLLISIONS

The Halifax Regional Municipality has released a new dataset on traffic collisions as part of an ongoing commitment to providing public access to data created and managed by the municipality.

This dataset includes all collision data from 2018-present. This data is used to understand where collisions happen, and what conditions lead to collisions at particular locations. This information allows the municipality to target countermeasures in the areas that need them most to help prevent fatal and injury collisions for all road users.

The open data initiative was first 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 [Administrative Order 2014-006-ADM Respecting Open Data](#).

For more information on the municipality’s open data program, and to access all the data sets, please visit our [website](#).



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Currently serving on:
Harbour East Marine Drive Community Council
Regional Centre Community Council
Environment and Sustainability Committee
Transportation Standing Committee
Special Events Advisory Committee
Shubenacadie Canal Commission
Liaison to the HRM Acadian Francophone Community
SAC for Prince Andrew High School
Greater Burnside Business Association
Alderney Landing Board of Directors
Halifax Public Library Board of Directors