



COUNCILLOR JANET STEELE

DISTRICT 12 NEWSLETTER

TIMBERLEA - BEECHVILLE - CLAYTON PARK - WEDGEWOOD

A MESSAGE FROM COUNCILLOR STEELE

Happy April, District 12!

Spring has sprung! The weather is getting warmer and the days longer. I hope you have an opportunity to get out and enjoy our beautiful municipal parks and green spaces.

This month, Regional Council will be approving the final operating budget for the municipality after an extensive process of reviewing each department's budget proposals. More information is below.

If you are aware of an upcoming community event taking place in District 12, please feel free to reach out and let me know. I am always happy to support community events and I can advertise these during regional council meetings during the community announcements portion.

As always, please feel free to reach out to me anytime with your municipal questions or concerns.



COUNCILLOR DROP-IN

I will be hosting community drop-ins which is a fantastic opportunity for me to connect with residents in a one-on-one format. I will advertise the date and location in this monthly E-Newsletter as well as on social media. The drop in date for March is:

Thursday April 24, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
Keshen Goodman Library, Meeting Room 5

I'm also hoping to host a drop in date at the new Beechville Lakeside Timberlea Community Centre once that is up and running. In the meantime, I'm happy to meet wherever is convenient to you.



Stay Informed, Stay Connected

Get the latest updates from
Councillor Janet Steele

Email smithem@halifax.ca to
subscribe to my monthly
e-newsletter



HALIFAX

halifax.ca | 311 | contactus@311.halifax.ca



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BEECHVILLE, LAKESIDE, TIMBERLEA COMMUNITY CORNER

Beechville, Lakeside, Timberlea Community Centre Update

Work continues to progress on the new community centre.



Unfortunately, due to unforeseen circumstances, the opening of the new centre has been delayed until late fall 2025. The official opening of the centre will depend on when programming can begin. I will be sure to advise when the date has been finalized.

During construction, recreation programs continue to take place at 1300 St. Margaret's Bay Road, neighborhood schools and the firehall. Further information can be found on our [website](#).

Halifax Waste Resource Society and the Otter Lake Community Monitoring Committee AGM

On March 22 AGMs were held for the Halifax Waste Resource Society and the Otter Lake Community Monitoring Committee.



Highlights are Reg Rankin was re-elected as the Chair of the Otter Lake Community Monitoring Committee and the Committee honored long-term board member, Tom Robertson. MLA Iain Rankin provided a certificate of recognition to Mr. Robertson.

Fraud Prevention Event with RCMP

We had about 20+ participants at the March 27 workshop at Trinity United Church. RCMP Officers, Chris MacDonald and Jamie Draper provided a presentation on how to protect yourself from online scams and fraud.



There were many great questions and sharing of best practices throughout the presentation. A special shout out to participant Channing Davis for offering so many great tips and examples.

Thanks to MLA Iain Rankin for partnering on the event, Trinity United Church for providing a convenient location for the community and to all who came out.

Mayflower Curling Club Open House

It was wonderful to see so many people attend the Mayflower Curling Club Open House at Brunello on March 29. HRM was pleased to provide some support for the new curling club which will be located in Timberlea. The Club is expected to open in fall 2025.



For those that are interested, learn to curl programs will be offered in September.



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CLAYTON PARK, WEDGEWOOD COMMUNITY CORNER

EV Chargers at the Canada Games Centre

In addition to the four Level 2 chargers which are being regularly used by the public already, we now have a Level 3 charger operational.

Some key information and resources that might be helpful:

- The fast charger can be activated via a Visa, Mastercard or the SWTCH app. Instructional video for the app can be found [here](#).
- Charging etiquette can be found [here](#).
- Fees for the Level 2 chargers are \$1.80/hr. The fee for the fast charger is \$45/hr. FAQ relating to the user fees can be found at the bottom of this [page](#).
- Finally, some answers to some commonly asked questions can be found [here](#).

For more information on electric vehicles and charger types, [click here](#).

Thomas Raddall Drive Shelter Village Update

The Shelter Village, a project of the Province of Nova Scotia, is being managed by the Atlantic Community Shelters Society (ACSS). The community space has now been completed and is open.



Now that the community space is ready the Shelter Village has accepted several new residents and currently there are 32 people living on site with staff and security on site 24 hours/day.

Halifax North West Trails Association

SPRING CLEANUP EVENT AT BELCHER'S MARSH TRAILS

04-26
APRIL 26TH 2025
09:30AM - NOON
MEET AT VETERANS CORNER

www.halifaxnorthwesttrails.ca

Save the date!

Bird Week

Guided Bird Walk
Belchers Marsh,
District 12, Clayton Park

Mon. May 26th
8:00 am - 9:00 am
Registration opens May

BIRD-FRIENDLY CITY HALIFAX, NS

Upcoming Events at Keshen Goodman Library

[Take & Make Kit: Crochet an Easter Egg](#)
Friday, April 11 9:00 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.

[Earth Day Grab & Go: Nasturtiums](#)
Tuesday, April 22 9:00 a.m. to 8:45 p.m.



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STRATEGIC PLAN FEEDBACK

HALIFAX
2026-2030
Strategic Plan

Help shape the municipality's priorities for the next four years.

Read the draft plan content and share your feedback by April 23 at shapeyourcityhalifax.ca/municipal-strategic-plan

The Halifax Regional Municipality invites residents to review the draft 2026-2030 Strategic Plan and share feedback.

This plan sets key priorities, guides decision-making, and supports the municipality's long-term vision. It reflects input from the 2024 Resident Survey, Regional Council, and senior leadership.

As you review the draft, we encourage you to consider:

- ✓ Does the plan address the most pressing issues facing our region?
- ✓ Does it reflect the right priorities for Regional Council and municipal administration?
- ✓ Does it incorporate perspectives from across the municipality?

Your input will help shape the final Strategic Plan and ensure it reflects the needs of our community.

[Click here to complete the survey.](#)

TALK TRANSIT

We want to hear from you! Halifax Transit is seeking feedback about accessible bus stop features for passengers with vision-related disabilities, as well as our Student Transit Pass Pilot Program.



Learn more and take the online survey [here](#).

BUDGET 2025/26

On Tuesday, April 8, Regional Council will give final review and approval of the 2025/26 budget.



The tax rate will remain essentially the same as 2024 but with assessment increases most residents will see approximately a 4.7% increase.

The municipal budget funds all costs associated with servicing a growing municipality. This includes day-to-day municipal operations, capital priority initiatives approved by Regional Council, and capital projects and investments to purchase, construct, rehabilitate and replace municipal assets.

For more information on the 2025/26 municipal budget process, visit our [website](#).



Purple Day Flag Raising



DISTRICT 12 2025/26 PLANNED CAPITAL WORK

Below you will find a list of the proposed planned capital work for 2025/26 in District 12. **Please be advised that this is not yet final and is subject to change pending Council’s final approval of the 2025/26 budget.**

Street Recapitalization

- Balsam St – Oliver to Hamilton (Carryover)
- Hamilton St – Oliver to Balsam (Carryover)
- Merganser Ave – Grebe to End (Integrated Traffic Calming)
- Oliver St – St Margaret’s to End (Carryover)

Asphalt Overlays

- Regency Park Dr – Lacewood to End (Integrated Traffic Calming)

New Sidewalks

- St. Margaret’s Bay Rd – Lakeside Park to Transit Stop 6164 (Carryover)

Walkways

- Regency Park Dr to 283 Thomas Raddall Dr

Traffic Management Projects

Traffic Calming

- Langbrae Dr

New Traffic Signals

- St Margaret’s Bay Rd at Timberlea Village Parkway (carry-over from 2024)

Planer Patching

- St. Margaret’s Bay Rd – Timberlea Village Parkway to Beech Tree



On March 8, we celebrated International Women’s Day!

DISTRICT 12 2025/26 PARKS CAPITAL PROJECTS

Below is a list of the proposed planned parks capital projects for 25/26 in District 12. **Please be advised that this is not yet final and is subject to change pending Council’s final approval of the 2025/26 budget.**

Outdoor Recreation 2025/26 Capital

Mainland Common Westridge Ball Diamond - Ball Diamond rehabilitation

Mainland Common All Weathers Fields #1 & #2 - lighting rehabilitation

Outdoor Recreation Carry Forward Capital

Recreational Trail Grant - Halifax Northwest Trails Association

Blue Mountain-Birch Cove Lakes Regional Park - Julius Blvd. Park trailhead parking lot (design)

Beechville Lakeside Timberlea Recreation Park - new splash pad

Munroe Park - walkway rehabilitation (integrated with Public Works improvements)



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SENIOR RECREATION SERVICES PLAN PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

The Halifax Regional Municipality is inviting residents to provide feedback on recreation programming for seniors 60 years and older.



Residents are encouraged to complete the survey or attend one of the upcoming public engagement sessions listed on our [website](#). The survey will remain open until Wednesday, June 4.

Parks & Recreation is in the process of developing a Seniors Recreation Services plan. This project is aimed at shaping the municipality's recreation programs and services for seniors over the next five years. Seniors' groups and individuals will be actively involved in creating this plan – and a Seniors' Recreation Advisory Group has been established to provide leadership and support to staff during the planning process.

For more information, visit [our website](#).

HAIL POND PARK/DUNBRACK STREET MULTI-USE PATH INFORMATION AND SURVEY

The municipality is inviting residents to provide input on the Hail Pond-Dunbrack Multi-Use Path Functional Plan. Share your thoughts on the three designs to help shape the next stage of planning to improve active transportation in the area.

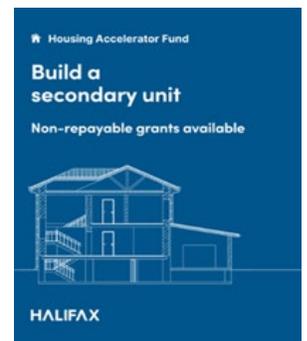
Learn more and take the survey [here](#).



It was informative to meet with Angie Holt, Halifax Lancers Executive Director and Head Coach and Board member Lynn Flewelling to learn about the Lancers' community programming and their plans for future expansion.

SECOND UNIT INCENTIVE PROGRAM

HRM, with help from funding from the federal government's Housing Accelerator Fund, has introduced a new grant program to help property owners create more housing options.



The Second Unit Incentive Program offers financial grants to help offset costs associated with building new secondary units. Eligible residents can receive up to \$12,000 to help reduce building expenses related to water and wastewater.

Applications will be open until June 1, 2026, or until funding is fully allocated. More information on how to apply can be found on HRM's [website](#).



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2025 SWIM NOVA SCOTIA AAA WINTER CHAMPIONSHIPS AT DALPLEX POOL



It was an honour to present medals at the Swim Nova Scotia Winter Championships. As a former Swim Canada official and a parent to four competitive swimmers, it was amazing to once again witness first-hand the incredible talent in our provincial swimming community. A big shout out to the swimmers, coaches, officials and parents.

VOLUNTEER WITH HALIFAX POLICE



Halifax Police is looking for peer-volunteers (aged 55+) who are interested in joining the HRP Seniors' Home Safety Program. Volunteers provide community presentations to groups of seniors on topics such as general safety and fraud prevention.

If you are available during daytime hours, have a valid NS driver's license and access to a vehicle, are confident in public speaking and have computer experience please email hrpvolunteers@halifax.ca. To learn more, visit our [website](#).

Save the Date April 15-16



Job Fair

Foire d'emploi
printanière

April 15-16 • 11 am - 4 pm
7071 Chebucto Rd, Halifax

Learn More: HRMJobFair.ca





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NOISE BY-LAW: CONSTRUCTION NOISE

The [Noise By-law](#) identifies the hours for which construction noise is not permitted. For example, the prohibited times for concrete pouring and finishing, and associated activities are:

- Weekdays from 8:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.,
- Saturdays from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m.,
- Sundays and holidays from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 a.m.

If you notice construction work taking place outside of the permitted hours, please call 311 or email contactus@311.halifax.ca. Please note, there is a process to grant noise exemptions. For more information, please visit our [website](#).

HALIFAX WATER ANNUAL BUSINESS PLAN AND FIVE-YEAR STRATEGY APPROVED



Regional Council has approved the 2025/26 Annual Business Plan and five-year business strategy for Halifax Water.

Halifax Water has a mandate to own and operate water facilities and utilities for the purpose of providing water, wastewater and stormwater services to customers. The organization is governed by the Halifax Water Board of Commissioners, in compliance with the [Halifax Regional Water Commission Act](#) and [Administrative Order 2018-001-ADM \(Respecting the Halifax Regional Water Commission\)](#).

The five-year strategic plan establishes the organization’s objectives and strategic initiatives from 2025 to 2030. The 2025/26 Annual Business Plan outlines a number of goals that have been established to meet these objectives.

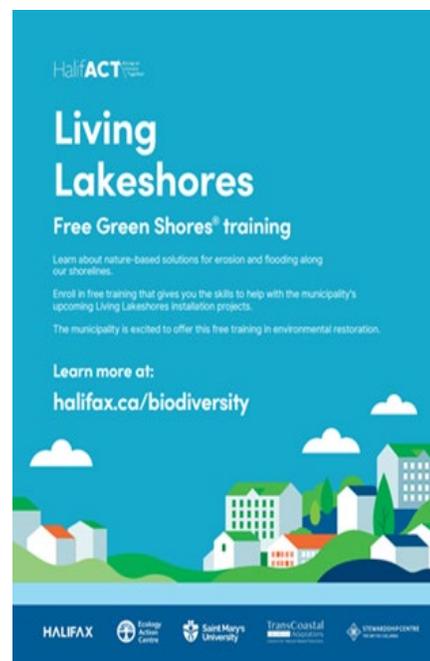
An updated integrated resource plan is expected in 2027/28.

For more information, read the staff report [here](#).

LIVING LAKESHORES

This spring, the municipality is partnering with Saint Mary’s University Halifax and the Ecology Action Centre to launch Living Lakeshores—a new initiative focused on protecting our region’s freshwater shorelines.

This project is a great opportunity for residents to get involved in preserving our natural environment. We’re offering free Level 1 training sessions where you can learn hands-on skills in shoreline naturalization. After completing Level 1, you’ll have the chance to take it even further with Level 2 training.



The first session took place on March 29 and another will take place May 2. We only have space for 20 people, so please register today!

Visit our [website](#) to learn more about Living Lakeshores and why education plays such a key role in protecting our shorelines.



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ON-STREET PARKING

I have been receiving many phone calls and emails related to on-street parking complaints. Here are a few common parking restrictions to remember:

- **Blocked Driveways:** Please ensure you're not blocking anyone's driveway. It's a common frustration and can cause significant inconvenience.
- **Time Limits:** Unless signs indicate a shorter limit, on-street parking is limited to 24 hours. Commercial vehicles are limited to 2 hours.
- **Curb Distance:** Park no more than 150mm (approximately 6 inches) from the curb. This includes avoiding parking in the middle of cul-de-sacs.
- **Direction of Parking:** Always park in the direction of traffic flow. Parking facing the wrong way is both illegal and unsafe.
- **Fire Hydrants:** Never park within 5 meters (approximately 16 feet) of a fire hydrant. Clear access is crucial for emergency services.
- **Intersections/Stop Signs:** Do not park too close to intersections or stop signs. This obstructs visibility and creates safety hazards.

Your cooperation helps maintain clear and safe streets for all residents. If you observe parking infractions, please report them by calling 311 or emailing contactus@311.halifax.ca

For more information on parking in HRM, visit our [website](#).

DISTRICT CAPITAL FUND

Each councillor has a small fund that can be used to support non-profits to undertake activities that will benefit the community. To apply we require a letter of request, including the name and address of the non - profit group, and explanation of how the funds will be used and a completed [Capital Request Form](#).

NEW ONLINE TOOL FOR BURN RESTRICTIONS

The Halifax Regional Municipality has launched Before You Burn, a new online tool that provides



residents and visitors with up-to-date information on whether burning is allowed in the Halifax region.

Before starting an open-air fire, check [Before You Burn](#) to stay informed and ensure compliance with municipal and provincial regulations.

Both the Province of Nova Scotia and the municipality have burning restrictions in effect. The new [Before You Burn](#) tool displays the burning restrictions in effect across the municipality by comparing municipal by-laws and provincial legislation with live data from the [provincial fire restrictions webpage](#).

Visit our [website](#) to see if burning is allowed.

Wildfire risk season and safe burning practices

Wildfire risk season in Nova Scotia runs from March 15 to Oct. 15, during which additional burning restrictions are in place. To protect our communities and prevent wildfires, always check [Before You Burn](#). If burning is permitted, follow these safety guidelines:

- Always check the daily burn restrictions before starting a fire to ensure it's safe and allowed.
- Never leave your fire unattended - unattended fires can spread quickly and become dangerous.
- Completely extinguish your fire - douse it with water, stir the ashes and repeat until everything is cool to the touch.

For more information on municipal fire restrictions, visit our [website](#).



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311 MUNICIPAL SERVICES AND INFORMATION

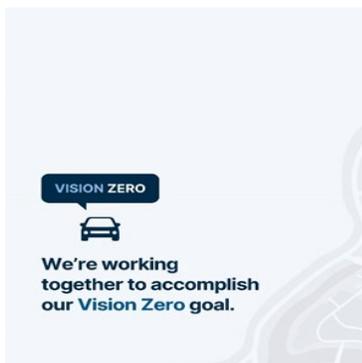
For routine municipal matters such as reporting potholes, snow clearing, requesting traffic calming assessments, garbage collection and much more, please call 311 or email contactus@311.halifax.ca. Please feel free to copy me on your email if this is not a routine matter.

When you call 311, your request is logged and tracked to ensure follow up and action by the appropriate department. Please be sure to advise the agent if you would like to receive a follow up from staff regarding your service request.

For more information about how to get in touch, please visit our [website](#).

ROAD SAFETY DASHBOARD

Interested in learning more about road safety in the municipality and the progress we are making? The [Road Safety Dashboard](#) provides an overview of collision data and allows users to track progress the municipality is making on a number of different road safety initiatives as we work together to accomplish our Vision Zero goals. Vision Zero is an internationally recognized road safety concept first introduced in the 1990s in Sweden. Adopted around the world, Vision Zero asserts fatalities and serious injuries on our roads are preventable, and that prevention is our shared responsibility.



Collision details are also available on the [Open Data Catalogue](#).

HALIFAX WATER INFRASTRUCTURE INSPECTIONS

Activities such as driveway paving and landscaping on your property can damage your connection to the water supply. This is why Halifax Water asks customers planning property improvements



such as driveway paving or landscaping to contact the utility 2-3 weeks before work begins.

This will allow time to schedule and conduct a visit to your property to complete an inspection and maintenance of the water service box that connects your home to the water main in the street.

Halifax Water offers this service at no charge to its customers.

Please call our Customer Care Centre at 902-420-9287 to start the process.

Halifax Water recommends having this work done before your new driveway or landscaping is in place to avoid unnecessary disturbance of newly installed landscaping or paving.

REC PROGRAMS AND SUMMER CAMPS

Registration for 2025 summer camps will start at 10 a.m. on Monday April 14. Learn more [here](#).





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REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETINGS

There are three Regional Council meetings scheduled for April. Regional Council meetings are held on Tuesdays:

- April 8
- April 15 (if required)
- April 29

Check out the full schedule of upcoming meetings – including committees [here](#). Meeting agendas (including the specific start time of 10 a.m. or 1 p.m.) and a link to watch the video are generally available by the Friday prior to the meeting. Reports on the items that councillors vote on are available and are linked throughout the meeting agenda.

COMMUNITY COUNCIL SCHEDULE AND AGENDA

The Halifax and West Community Council normally meets once a month on Tuesdays at 6 p.m. in Council Chambers. Meeting dates, time and location are subject to change. You can find agendas, report, and minutes [online](#).

Stay tuned for the video link to be shared closer to the next Halifax and West meeting, scheduled for April 22.

Currently serving on:

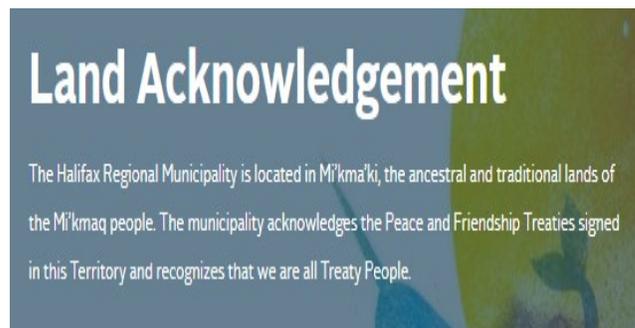
- Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee
- Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee
- Appeals Standing Committee
- Halifax and West Community Council
- Halifax Water Board of Commissioners
- Canada Games Centre Board of Directors
- Otter Lake Community Monitoring Committee

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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.

We also acknowledge the histories and legacies of the African Nova Scotian people and communities that have been here for more than 400 years.



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