

COUNCILLOR WAYE MASON DISTRICT 7 NEWSLETTER WINTER/SPRING 2017



DEAR RESIDENTS,

It was a great honor being re-elected as the Councillor for District 7 Halifax South Downtown. Thank you so much for the overwhelming support! I am more excited than ever to work hard to represent our community and to continue to build Halifax.

One thing I heard on the doorsteps was how much residents appreciate the regular communication about what is going on in our neighbourhoods. I send an email newsletter to residents somewhere between every 2 weeks and once a month. Sign up info is below.

You can also have a look at my website, with my calendar, expenses, and copies of past and present newsletters. Please have a look at wayemason.ca

I've been working with community groups to create a new community portal for various projects and organizations, including participatory budgeting. This new website can be found at halifaxsouth.ca

This newsletter also has articles on our ongoing work with **JEM volunteer group**, **community grants** application deadlines, **taxi safety** and the plans for **Participatory Budgeting for 2017**.

Take care,

E-NEWS SIGNUP

In addition to this paper newsletter, I have been sending regular email updates approximately once a month for the last four years. This is the best way to keep up-to-date on what is happening in our District and in the Halifax area.

Please visit wayemason.ca/mailling-list and enter your information. You will receive an email to confirm subscription, you must click on the link supplied. You can unsubscribe at anytime and email addresses will not be shared.

If you are aware of a community event or announcement and would like it included, please forward the information to my Coordinator, Melody Campbell, at melody.campbell@halifax.ca so I can include it in a future update.

CONTACT US

311 - HRM CITIZEN CONTACT CENTRE



Call 311 or visit halifax.ca/311 to report a municipal issue, the contact centre is open daily from 7 am - 11 pm except Christmas & New Year's Day.

CALL MY OFFICE

Contact my Council Constituency Coordinator Melody Campbell by email at melody.campbell@halifax.ca or by calling 902.490.2012

CONTACT ME

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halifax.ca

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wayemason.ca/mailling-list/

OTHER USEFUL NUMBERS

Police/Fire Emergency	911
Police non-emergency	902.490.5020
Fire (non-emergency)	902.490.5530
Halifax Water Emergency	902.490.6940
Councillor Support Office	902.490.4050



TRANSIT UPGRADES

Plan your route using google transit! Google Transit is a free public transit trip planner that integrates Halifax Transit route, schedule, and stop data into Google Maps.

Halifax Transit is launching real-time data in a beta release. Wondering if your bus is on time? Halifax Transit wants to improve your commuting experience by taking the guesswork out of your travel plans. Bus users can now access real-time information on estimated departure times. This conveniently allows you to plan accordingly, greatly enhancing your transit experience.

For more information visit <http://www.halifax.ca/transit/googletransit/>

COMMUNITY GRANT PROGRAM

HRM is now accepting applications for the 2017-2018 Community Grants Program. The deadline for applying is March 31, 2017. Information, application forms and program guide books are available at: <http://www.halifax.ca/boardscom/bccgrants/CommunityGrantsProgram.php>.

You may also pick up a copy at any HRM Customer Service Centre. To have a copy mailed to you send a request to nonprofitgrants@halifax.ca or call 311.



BE PREPARED: JOIN THE JEM

We continue to work on establishing a formal Joint Emergency Management (JEM) team. This is a community-based volunteer organization that works with HRM's Emergency Management Organization (EMO). This is great way for involved citizens to educate friends, family and neighbours in preparedness for emergencies.

JEM's motto is "neighbours helping neighbours". During emergencies, residents in affected communities need to be prepared to help themselves and to assist others. Come join us!

You can find more info at <http://halifaxsouth.ca/jem>

Upcoming meeting schedule – Halifax Central Library (unless otherwise indicated) 7:00 p.m.

- April 26th – Halifax City Hall
- May 31st – Creative Lab Room
- June 28th – Creative Lab Room
- September 27th – Creative Lab Room
- October 25th – Creative Lab Room
- November 29th – Creative Lab Room



It was an honour to be on the MacDonalld Bridge as the last two segments of the Big Lift were lifted into place.



Over 1000 people attended a memorial at the Grand Parade to commemorate those lost in the Quebec massacre.



COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

After each election municipal councillors are reappointed to committees, councils, agencies and boards.

I am pleased to share that I have been re-elected as to serve as Chair of the **Community Planning Economic Development Standing Committee** for an additional two year term. I've also been elected Vice Chair of **Halifax & West Community Council** and appointed to the **Executive Standing Committee** and **Transportation Standing Committee**.

My appointments to outside agencies include positions on the **Halifax Board of Police Commissioners** and the **Halifax Harbour Bridges Commission**.

I serve on several advisory committees, including the **Accessibility Advisory Committee**, **Community Design Advisory Committee**, **Point Pleasant Park Advisory Committee**, and **District 7 & 8 Planning Advisory Committee**.

Finally, it is a tremendous honor to have been elected to the board of the **Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities (UNSM)**, the provincial body that represents all of Nova Scotia's counties, towns and regional municipalities.

TAXI APPEALS AND LICENSING MOTION

I am pleased to let residents know HRM is taking action to review & tighten standards for taxis. My motion was passed unanimously & I would like to share my introduction:

What citizens in HRM value is a taxi system that is safe for all. It is important that the public both know and feel the taxi system in HRM is safe. People should only be licensed to drive a cab if they contribute to the fact and perception of the public that the taxi system is safe for all, and not if the driver's actions detract from that perception.

Taxi drivers have a duty of care, and must conduct themselves at all times in a manner which will maintain the good reputation of the taxi system and its ability to serve the public interest. The taxi system is a publicly regulated system, and no one has a right to a license. The grant of license is a privilege that can be revoked at any time. HRM must take every step to ensure that what citizens value is protected and the highest standards maintained.

The administration and oversight of licensing appeals, including taxi licenses, is technically difficult & beyond the training & experience of most Councillors. The process of license appeals should be reviewed & amended to reflect that.



This truck has a sideguard installed. Sideguards save lives, and are being installed on all HRM and contractor vehicles over the next three years.



Remembrance Day at Point Pleasant Park was very moving, and I'd like to thank large number of residents in attendance,



PLEASE RECYCLE - Due to Canada Post delivery routes, some residents who do not live in District 7 may receive this newsletter. If you receive it in error, I apologize for any confusion. To find out who your councillor is, please visit: eservices.halifax.ca/districtLookup/ or call 311.



PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING 2017/18

BUILDING A GREAT COMMUNITY - ONE GREAT IDEA AT A TIME

Once again, I invite District 7 residents' input on how to spend \$94,000 in the community. The funds will be allocated using a Participatory Budgeting model whereby residents are invited to submit community project ideas and qualifying submissions are then voted on by the community.

The benefits of this process are that it encourages great ideas to come forward from local groups, builds community support and collaboration, and gives local residents a direct say in how they want the District 7 capital funds spent.

PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING IDEA SWAP

Monday April 10, 2017 | 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Halifax Hall, 2nd Floor Halifax City Hall
Everyone is welcome to discuss priorities and ideas on how to improve District 7. Find out more about submitting a project.

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION DEADLINE

Midnight | Monday, May 15, 2017
Email to melody.campbell@halifax.ca or by mail to Melody Campbell, Council Support Office, PO Box 1749 Halifax, NS B3J 3A5

COMMUNITY VOTE - ALL RESIDENTS WELCOME!

Wednesday, June 14, 2017 | 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm
Lindsay Children's Room, Halifax Central Library
District 7 residents of all ages are invited to vote on their favourite projects in person. Winners will be announced that night.

FOR MORE INFO VISIT
[HTTP://HALIFAXSOUTH.CA/PB](http://HALIFAXSOUTH.CA/PB)