



**COUNCILLOR RUSSELL WALKER**  
DISTRICT 10 ONLINE NEWS  
HALIFAX - BEDFORD BASIN WEST

## Engage Mainland North



As part of its first annual **Hats and Mittens Project**, Engage Mainland North is collecting new or cleaned gently used hats, mittens and scarves to donate to those in need. When cold weather rolls in, we head into that time of year when

needs are greatest. We are reaching out to the community and asking everyone to check their winter gear bins and come together to help people stay warm in the winter by gathering as many donations as possible over the next few weeks.

The project will run from **Monday, November 21 to Friday, December 16**. Donations can be dropped off at **Grace Chapel, 255 Ross Street, Halifax, NS** Tuesday to Friday from 9am to 4pm and also Friday from 5:30-6:30pm.

This year's project will donate to ARK Outreach in Halifax. ARK drop-in is a place to call home for street-involved and homeless youth, ages 16-24. Like any home, the centre offers daily meals, showers, laundry facilities,

and access to other basics like clothing and socks to the youth who come through its door. Visit <http://www.arkoutreach.com/>

If you'd like to become involved in this project, or have questions about it, please contact us at 902-430-8349 or email [engagemainlandnorth@gmail.com](mailto:engagemainlandnorth@gmail.com).

## Shape Your Budget 2017

How does municipal budgeting work? Try out the Budget Allocator to see where you would allocate resources. That information, together with your comments, will be shared in a report to Council prior to budget deliberations for 2017/18.

To register to get involved or to see where your tax dollars are spent please visit <http://shapeyourcityhalifax.ca/hfxtax2017>



Open 7 days a week from 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. (except Christmas Day & New Year's Day)



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### Volunteer Awards

Each year the Halifax Regional Municipality, the Mayor and Regional Council recognize the extraordinary contributions of individuals and groups who volunteer their time and skills to provide services and programs in municipal communities. Do you know a deserving group or individual? Why not nominate them today?

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2017 Volunteer Awards. Nominations will close December 16, 2016. For more information please visit <http://www.halifax.ca/volunteerservices/awards/index.php>

[Nominate a group](#)

[Nominate an individual - youth or adult](#)

### 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Confederation kicks off on New Year's Eve in Halifax

The Grand Parade is the place to be on New Year's Eve as Halifax launches a full year of celebrations to mark the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Canada.



The already festive night will have an extra shine to it this year, as the provincial capital begins toasting Canada 150, a year-long tribute to the birth of Confederation.

Halifax is stepping up its party game with enhanced New Year's Eve festivities at Grand Parade and the Emera Oval, where the focus will be on highlighting the past 150 years as a country.

As part of the Canada 150 celebrations, the federal government is contributing \$130,000 to help make Halifax's New Year's Eve the best ever.

On New Year's Eve, several cities across Canada will count down the final hours of the year and kick off the festivities for the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Confederation with a bang. Citizens of HRM are invited to join in this major celebration to mark the start of a truly historic year.

The 150th anniversary of confederation - or Canada 150 - is a chance for Canadians from every walk of life to celebrate our nation's diversity, history, environment, and place in the world.

The headliner for this year's festivities at Grand Parade will be Juno Award winner *The Strumbellas*, one of Canada's biggest tour bands this year. Halifax will also be treated to the musical talents of Ria Mae, who recently won five Music Nova Scotia awards and is nominated for a Juno. The festivities at Grand Parade begin at 10 p.m. and will culminate with the largest fireworks display in Atlantic Canada at midnight. Earlier in the evening another fireworks display will be held at the Emera Oval, so the younger residents of the municipality can join in on the Canada 150 kick-off.

Halifax is also one of five cities across the country to be featured live throughout the night on CBC Television, as the national broadcaster pays tribute to the past 150 years of our great country.

Eastlink will also broadcast the entire night live to its subscribers. For more information on Canada 150 please visit

<http://www.ottawa2017.ca/full-year-of-sesquicentennial-celebrations-in-ottawa-to-kick-off-with-the-lighting-of-an-eye-catching-cauldron-on-new-years-eve/>

HALIFAX



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## HOLIDAY SAFETY TIPS

Brought to you by Clayton Park & Fairview  
Neighbourhood Watch and  
Halifax Regional Police Youth Program



### Holiday shopping

Stay one step ahead of thieves with these tips:

- Keep your purse zipped closed and in sight. If you're carrying a wallet, keep it in a zipped pocket.
- Always lock your vehicle and park in well-lit, well-travelled areas.
- Never leave anything of obvious value in plain view in an unattended vehicle.
- Store anything of value in the trunk of your vehicle before you arrive at your destination.
- Avoid leaving high-end purchases in your vehicle, if possible.
- Try to shop during daylight hours.
- When shopping at a mall or shopping complex, and you want to store packages in your trunk and then return to the mall or store right away, it is best to drive out of the parking lot so it looks like you're leaving the area. Instead, drive to the other side of the mall or complex before re-entering.

### Online shopping

- Shop from a home computer, if possible. It's safer than shopping at a public terminal.
- Go directly to a store's website by typing its address into your web browser.
- Verify secure connections. Don't enter any information if you see a broken key or open padlock symbol on your web browser; this means the transaction is not secure. When the key is complete or the padlock is locked, it's a secure transaction.
- Unlike secure order forms on a website, email messages aren't private. Don't send confidential personal or financial information by email.
- Remember the golden rule of fraud prevention, if it seems too good to be true, it probably is.

### Credit and debit card security

- Never share your PIN with anyone. Your PIN is confidential and should be treated that way.
- Examine bank statements frequently and note any unusual or unaccounted activity. Notify the bank or financial institution if you suspect someone has tampered with your account.
- Protect your PIN when using bank machines. Remember to hover & cover; hover over the terminal and cover the keypad to prevent someone from observing your key strokes and recording your PIN. Change your PIN if you think someone has accessed your account. It's a good idea to change your PIN frequently.

### Home security

- Don't put your Christmas tree and presents in front of a window where they can be seen easily.
- Don't store presents in sheds and garages where they could be easy pickings for thieves.
- Ensure you have adequate lighting around your home.

### Report suspicious activity or thefts



Call 902-490-5020 to report suspicious activity or thefts to police. Provide the time, location and a detailed description of the activity and individuals. This will help police identify suspects. Reporting crime, no matter how minor, helps police determine and report on current and emerging problems or crime trends.



To find out more about Clayton Park & Fairview Neighbourhood Watch, email [cpafnw@gmail.com](mailto:cpafnw@gmail.com)





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Engage Mainland North in association with Halifax Regional Municipality's Emergency Management Operations is looking to partner with community organizations, associations and residents in Clayton Park, Fairview and surrounding areas to form a new **Joint Emergency Management (JEM) district**.

### What is JEM

Joint Emergency Management (JEM) is a concept developed by the Halifax Regional Municipality's Emergency Management Office (EMO), to allow community organizations to prepare for, and respond quickly to, a wide range of emergencies. JEM teams are the community volunteers of EMO. In times of crisis, EMO may activate JEM Support Centres (JSC) to coordinate response with humanitarian agencies already engaged in the JEM coverage area. These centres are a facility where trained individuals can meet to provide local input to the Emergency Operations Centre, located in Dartmouth.

### Why

#### *Neighbours helping neighbours*

In the critical hours following a crisis situation, while local and provincial response agencies are dealing with the immediate and urgent needs of the municipality, residents in affected communities need to be prepared to help themselves and to assist their neighbours, who may have been seriously impacted by the event. We need volunteers from our communities to join together and form a JEM so we are proactively prepared to deal with an emergency.

### When

The initial planning meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 30, 2017 from 6-8 pm at the Canada Games Centre, 26 Thomas Raddall Drive, Halifax, NS.

### How

Pre-registration is preferred but not necessary. Send an email with your name and contact information to [engagemainlandnorth@gmail.com](mailto:engagemainlandnorth@gmail.com). You will receive a confirmation email, or feel free to join us the night of the event.

#### **Kate Sullivan, Chair**

Engage Mainland North

#### **Barry Manuel, EMO Coordinator**

Halifax Regional Municipality

For more information visit

<https://www.halifax.ca/emo/jems.php>

## New Year's Eve at the Canada Games Centre



**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31ST, 2016 | 2:30PM-5PM**

Celebrate the New Year early with a special event designed for families – kids, parents and grandparents. Enjoy an active afternoon together with activities & games in the Field House and Aquatics Centre – just in time for the babysitter!

**Featuring:** OnTree zip lines (ages 6+), Bouncy castles in the Field House, Giant inflatable obstacle course in the Competition Pool, Fundamental Movement Skills zone (obstacle course), CGC Photo Booth, ...Snacks & more!



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*PLEASE NOTE: Proper bathing attire is required for all water based activities and indoor shoes are required for all land based activities.*

To find out more information about the event or to purchase tickets please visit <http://canadagamescentre.ca/special-event/new-years-eve-family-extravaganza-2016/>

### Winter Operations



Winter weather is already upon us and with it the need for snow clearing programs to kick into gear. The Halifax Regional Municipality’s Winter Operations program is fully prepared and ready to deal with snow clearing of our almost 3,800 kilometres of streets, 1,000 kilometres of sidewalks and 2,295 bus stops. Our crews consist of both in-house and contracted operators and equipment. This year, the municipality has expanded the geographic area to be covered by fixed cost contractors and secured access to more equipment, which will better position our in-house staff to improve service in the areas they are responsible for. Monitoring and measuring also plays an important part in improving service delivery.

Vehicle tracking technology will be used this season to provide real time information on winter maintenance operations. This technology has been adopted in other jurisdictions in Canada and was also recommended in an independent review of the Winter Operations program.

Information is also available on street and sidewalk clearing schedules that is tailored to individual communities and areas. As well, residents may call 311 for more detailed information as we have winter operations plugged into the 311 system for the first time this year.

As in previous years, the HRM Parking Ban period is December 15 through March 15, 2017, but is only activated and enforced when declared by staff during inclement weather. The ban is in place over night between 1 a.m. and 6 a.m. Check [www.halifax.ca/snow/ParkingBan/Notifications.php](http://www.halifax.ca/snow/ParkingBan/Notifications.php) to sign up for parking ban notifications. For more information on our winter operations, like vehicle tracking, parking ban information, and service updates, please visit [www.halifax.ca/snow/index.php](http://www.halifax.ca/snow/index.php).

### Contact

Russell Walker, Councillor  
District 10 – Halifax - Bedford Basin West  
P.O. Box 1749, Halifax, NS B3J 3A5  
Phone: 902-497-7215  
Email: [russell.walker@halifax.ca](mailto:russell.walker@halifax.ca)  
HRM website: [halifax.ca/District10/index.php](http://halifax.ca/District10/index.php)

Please click the link to [UNSUBSCRIBE](#).



My wife Cheryl and I would like to take this time to extend best wishes to you and your families for a happy and safe holiday season and a very prosperous 2017.