

Councillor Russell Walker District 10

Halifax - Bedford Basin West



Commuter Rail Feasibility Study Open House February 26th

Residents are invited to attend an open house hosted by Halifax Transit and CPCS Canada. They will present information on work completed to date on the Commuter Rail Feasibility Study, which has been underway since September 2014. The objective of the study is to examine options and associated costs of implementing and operating a commuter rail line in Halifax. The meeting will be held as follows:

When: Thursday, Feb. 26, 5 – 8 p.m.

Where: Sunnyside Mall (near Shoppers Drug Mart), 1595 Bedford Highway, Bedford

For additional background information on the study visit www.halifax.ca/transit/commuterrail.php. This page will also feature presentation materials and an opportunity to provide feedback later this week for the convenience of residents unable to attend the session in person.

Residents Invited to Provide Input on Draft Halifax Transit Plan

Halifax Transit has released its much anticipated draft *Moving Forward Together Plan* and is asking residents to provide feedback. The plan proposes a redesign of the transit network to make it simpler, smarter and more efficient.

I encourage everyone, whether they currently ride a bus or ferry or even if they don't, to have a look at this new plan, tell us what they think, and help us make transit better.

The comprehensive system review and network redesign came out of a series of public consultations that took place over several months in 2013 and gathered the input of community groups, Regional Council and thousands of residents.

The focus of the plan is to make it easier for Halifax Transit users to get where they're going by:

- investing in the most popular routes;
- offering faster commutes during rush hour;
- making transfers easier to use;

- introducing new routes where they are needed; and
- retiring or redesigning inefficient and underused routes.

Residents are invited to learn more about the plan and provide their feedback at MakeTransitBetter.ca.



Please join us at SupperNOVA Multicultural Potluck, a wonderful community event with multicultural food and entertainment! Bring along a dish of food to share with others.

Date: Saturday, February 28th

Time: 6pm - 8:30pm

Location: St. Benedict Church (45 Radcliffe Drive)

Grants for Professional Arts

Applications are now available for the 2015-2016 Interim Grants to Professional Arts Organizations Program. This program provides funding to registered not-for-profit arts organizations for operating assistance or project assistance. For more details, check our [website](#). Submit your application no later than March 31st, 2015 at 4:30 p.m. for your organization to be considered.

BUILD Program Collecting Donations for Local Causes

Youth from the BUILD program are hoping to raise \$100 each for local charities over the next month.

The BUILD program is an afterschool fitness program for Fairview Junior High and Clayton Park Junior High students. The students have already organized a food drive for Parker Street Food Bank and are looking to raise money to donate to local community organizations helping more families.

Please consider donating to these youth as they canvas our community. Youth who succeed in raising the \$100 will be rewarded with a Wake-athon in the Fairview Junior High gym on March 27th. For more information, contact Dustin Ellsworth through [email](#) or visit the BUILD program on [Facebook](#).

Budget Discussions

Regional Council is currently undergoing budget discussions for the 2015-2016 year.

You can have your say by attending Committee of the Whole meetings happening every Wednesday from February 4th – March 11th from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. or by adding your comments on the Shape Your City [budget website](#). Check our [website](#) for more information on budget meetings coming up in the next month.



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

Registration for Spring Recreation Programs Begins February 25th



Recreation services offer a variety of recreation programs to children, youth, adults, and seniors all year round. From little kickers soccer, to swimming and skating lessons, to

zumba and photography, there's a recreation program available to everyone.

Registration for the spring recreation programs begins on February 25th. To register or to find out more information about the recreation programs, visit our [website](#).

Community Grants Program

The Halifax Regional Municipality's Community Grants Program is now accepting applications for the 2015-2016 program. The program offers tax concessions and project specific or capital grants to non-profit organizations and charities. To find out more about eligibility for the program, you can download the [program guidebook](#) online or call 902-490-7310. Applications must be submitted by March 31st, 2015 to be considered.

Fairview Community Association – Calling for Volunteers



The Fairview Community Association's Events Committee is looking for volunteers to help with several planned events throughout the 2015 year.

If you would like to become more involved in your community, make new friends and become part of a team, please contact Kendall O'Connor at 902-237-2491 or by [email](#).

Call for Nominations! The Order of Nova Scotia



The Order of Nova Scotia is the highest honour of the Province of Nova Scotia. Established in 2001, it encourages excellence by recognizing Nova Scotians for outstanding contributions or

achievements. Members of the Order of Nova Scotia have distinguished themselves in many fields of endeavour and have brought honour and prestige to themselves and to Nova Scotia.

The province is asking for submissions for the 2014 Order of Nova Scotia program. Please go to the Protocol Office website by clicking [HERE](#) to download a nomination form.

The closing date for submissions is Friday, March 20th, 2015.

New Service Available to Seniors: 211 Nova Scotia

Since January 15th, 2015, seniors only need to dial three digits to get information they need as the province-wide 211 service will handle inquiries about senior abuse and provincial programs.

Calls to 211 are toll-free from any phone in Nova Scotia, and 211 also offers an easy-to-navigate online database at www.ns.211.ca.

211 Nova Scotia is a confidential information and referral service for community, non-profit and government services. It has information about thousands of services, is available 24 hours a day and has interpretation services for more than 100 languages.

Heating Assistance Rebate Program 2014-2015

The Heating Assistance Rebate Program (HARP) provides help to lower-income Nova Scotians with the cost of home heating. You qualify for this program if you pay a heating bill at your current address and meet ONE of the following criteria:

- live alone with an income of \$27,000 or less
- live with others and have a combined income of \$42,000 or less
- receive Income Assistance from the Department of Community Services
- receive the Guaranteed Income Supplement from Service Canada

Your application must be mailed by March 31st, 2015.

For the online application, please [Click Here](#).

Canada Post Ceases Door to Door Delivery

This spring Canada Post will cease door to door delivery. Home delivery will be replaced by community mailboxes. Despite the fact that the majority of the locations are in the HRM right-of-way, under the Canada Post Act they have a right to place the community mail boxes where they wish to locate them and Council cannot refuse them. If there are specific safety concerns, you can ask them to review a proposed location. Canada Post is responsible for year round maintenance, including graffiti, garbage and snow removal so the mail boxes can be accessed safely and are not unsightly. If you have any concerns about the location, access, or maintenance of the mail boxes, please contact Canada Post at 1-844-454-3009.

Contact

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HRM website:

<http://www.halifax.ca/District10/index.php>

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