

Councillor Russell Walker District 10

Halifax - Bedford Basin West



Town Hall Meeting

Councillor Reg Rankin and I will be hosting a town hall meeting. This is a great opportunity for you to meet your Councillor and express any concerns you may have. HRM staff will be in attendance to provide feedback and answer your questions.

Thursday, January 16th
7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Keshen Goodman Library
Thomas Raddall Room
330 Lacewood Drive
Halifax, NS



As your elected representatives, we look forward to meeting you to discuss any concerns or issues you may have regarding our municipal services.

Recreation Program Instructors Needed

HRM is inviting applications for part-time Recreation Program Instructors. The Recreation Program Instructor leads recreation programs for a variety of age groups at various locations throughout HRM. Individuals would be required to plan and lead programs such as children's sports and play programs, adult fitness, craft and wellness programs, as well as various pre-school and youth programs. These job opportunities are a perfect way to gain valuable work experience, learn new skills and contribute to the community. Closing date for applications is February 12th, 2014 at 4:00 PM. For more information, go to: www.halifax.ca/rec/. Applicants must include the job title and competition number in the subject line of the e-mail that is sent to SEC@halifax.ca.

HRM Community Grant Program

HRM is now accepting applications for the 2014-2015 Community Grants Program. The deadline for applying is March 31st, 2014. Application forms and program guidebooks are available on-line at www.halifax.ca/grants, by calling 311 or from one of HRM's Citizen Contact Centres.

The HRM Community Grants Program is a centralized program that provides annual grants to registered non-profit organizations and charities located throughout HRM. There are two types of grants: (1) a project grant of up to \$5,000 and (2) a capital grant of up to \$25,000. Grants are one-time and project-specific within the following funding sectors: Environment; Recreation & Leisure; Affordable & Supportive Housing; Emergency Assistance; Neighborhood Safety; Community History; Community Diversity; and Arts & Crafts. For information see:

www.halifax.ca/boardscom/bccgrants/CommunityGrantsProgram.html.

Budget Meetings Open to Public



SHAPE YOUR
CITY
SHAPE YOUR
BUDGET

Over the next few months, Council will be meeting with the Directors of each HRM Business Unit to discuss the 2014-2015 budget. This will be done in Committee of the Whole, which

includes a public participation segment. All residents are welcome to attend and to comment on departmental budgets.

January 15	Transportation & Public Works
January 22	Community & Recreation Services Halifax Regional Public Library
January 29	Halifax Regional Police Fire & Emergency Services
February 5	Planning & Infrastructure
February 12	Governance & Legal Services Human Resources Finance & Information Technology
February 19	Capital Budget
February 26	Fiscal & Consolidated Accounts
March 26	Full Review of Final Budget

When these meetings are complete, HRM staff will prepare a draft budget based on the comments received from Council and the public. For more information on the budgeting process, please visit www.shapeyourcityhalifax.ca.

Ice Safety Lakes & Ponds in HRM

Before you go skating on lakes and ponds in HRM, make sure conditions are safe.

Did you know ice thickness should be:

- 15 cm for walking or skating alone
- 20 cm for skating parties or games
- 25 cm for snowmobiles

Be safe. Avoid going out on the ice at night and always check conditions before venturing out.

Before you lace up your skates, check the safety guidelines and ice conditions at www.halifax.ca/real_property/ice.

Input Sought for Branding Exercise



Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM) has taken the next step in its branding project by launching DefineHalifaxRegion.com, a website aimed at giving the public an easy way to provide feedback and a resource to learn more about the initiative and why it matters to residents.

This branding project will give residents an opportunity to share their thoughts on our regional identity. Public feedback will help define our brand. This single rallying cry will connect our pride and show the world what a great place our region is to live, work, invest and visit. Public engagement has begun and will continue into February 2014. In addition to capturing feedback from people on the street and at community hubs such as farmers markets, the project will be collecting input online via the website DefineHalifaxRegion.com, and several social media channels, including:

Twitter: @DefineHalifax and hashtag #DefineHFX
 Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/DefineHFX>
 Instagram: <http://instagram.com/definehfx>
 Google+:
<https://plus.google.com/108287807006076287578/posts>

Residents can also opt to share their thoughts on what living here means to them by emailing comment@DefineHalifaxRegion.com or calling 490-TALK (8255) or toll-free at 1-855-380-TALK (8255) to leave a message. The feedback shared by residents and businesses – along with research results from focus groups and telephone surveys – will be compiled, analysed and developed into a brand

recommendation. This recommendation will be brought to Regional Council in spring 2014. Pending Council approval, a phased implementation will begin, guided by detailed brand standards, templates and policies to protect the brand's integrity and value.

All residents and businesses are encouraged to share their voice in this opportunity. For more information please visit www.DefineHalifaxRegion.com.

Saturday 'Open Gym' Program in HRM Schools

Winter is no fun if you hibernate! The Halifax Regional School Board, with the provincial Department of Health and Wellness and HRM Recreation, is offering families the opportunity to come and play, **free of charge**, in five school gymnasiums across the municipality. I am pleased to say that Fairview Junior High is one of the five schools and that from 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm every Saturday until May 31, 2014, school-aged children and youth, along with their parents are welcome to come and play tag, kick-ball, or anything else that might seem fun, to keep active during the cold winter months.

HRM Recreation staff will be onsite, but parents are encouraged to join the children for a game of tag! Gymnasiums will not be available on March 15, 2014.

Upcoming Events at the Oval



Canadian Tire Jumpstart - I Love to Skate

Beginning January 4th, 2014 children & youth can learn to skate at the Emera Oval for **FREE!**



BOUNCE Road Show on Ice

Friday, January 10th @ 6:30pm - Get off the couch and party with The BOUNCE on the ICE! There will be lots of fun, prizes and of course they'll be spinning Halifax's Hit Music at the

Emera Oval for the BOUNCE Road Show on Ice!

Please note: there is no charge for this event.



C100 Family Skate

Saturday, January 11th at 4:00pm -

Get your longjohns on. C100 will be spinning the tunes for a great free Family Skate at the Emera Oval.



Canadian Tire Jumpstart Hockey Day in HRM

Saturday, January 18th time TBD

For more information on upcoming events visit

<http://www.halifax.ca/skatehrm/>

Community Council

Halifax & West Community Council is made up of the six Councillors from District 7 to 12. Community Council meets two Tuesdays per month, at 7:00 pm to discuss and make decisions on local matters, including developments. The 2014 calendar is posted at

<http://www.halifax.ca/Commcoun/west/index.html>.

Meetings are usually held at City Hall or within the community most affected by the issue at hand. Each Community Council meeting will end with a public participation segment which gives the residents the opportunity to ask questions or comment on municipal issues.

**Open 7 days a week from
7:00 am to 11:00 pm
except Christmas Day and
New Year's Day**



Civic Event Grants

The 2014/15 grant application is now open and closes Friday, January 31st at 12:00 noon. Please note that there will only be one intake for the 2014/15 fiscal year due to implementation of a new granting structure. The Friday, January 31st deadline is the only deadline for 2014/15. HRM supports events that build communities, foster good community relations, develop local economy and tourism industry, and enrich the quality of life for all residents and visitors.

Preference will be given to events which:

- are free to the public.
- are run by non-profit organizations.
- have a broad appeal.

There are three funding programs for which you can apply:

- Festival and Events Grant Program
- Summer Festivals Grant Program
- Marketing Levy Special Events Reserve

For more information about the Civic Event Grants, please visit

<http://www.halifax.ca/events/grants.html>

Contact

Russell Walker, Councillor
District 10 – Halifax - Bedford Basin West
Phone: 902-497-7215
HRM website: <http://www.halifax.ca>