

# Councillor Russell Walker

## District 10

Halifax - Bedford Basin West



### Get Ready for Spring Planting in Fairview!

On Tuesday, Sept. 25, 2012, Halifax Regional Council approved HRM's urban forest master plan (UFMP). HRM's urban forest consists of all trees within the urban core, including street trees, park trees, and trees on private and public land. The goal of the plan is to ensure a sustainable future for our urban forest and to create awareness about environmental stewardship. The plan was developed in cooperation with Dalhousie University's School for Resource and Environmental Studies (SRES) after many years of research, public engagement, workshops and reports.

This year, five neighbourhood areas have been selected to take part in a pilot program to significantly increase the number of street trees planted. The areas are Colby Village, Connaught/Quinpool, Eastern Passage, Fairview and North End Halifax. The pilot

program will include improved tree planting and maintenance programs, as well as opportunities for volunteers to get involved.

In Fairview one hundred and thirty-six new street trees will be planted along Main Avenue and Willett Street. A variety of hardy native tree species will be selected. In years to come these trees will beautify the neighbourhood and grow tall to form a protective canopy cover. Fifteen evergreens will also be planted in the HRM greenspace bordering Highway 102 and Westerwald Street.

Planting starts in early April and will continue throughout the spring. The UFMP website will be updated on a regular basis to help you stay informed about upcoming planting schedules and volunteer opportunities in your neighbourhood. Visit the website at

[www.halifax.ca/RealPropertyPlanning/UFMP](http://www.halifax.ca/RealPropertyPlanning/UFMP)

## Metro Transit Lacewood Terminal

Chebucto Community Council approved in principle a site on Lacewood Drive (between the Canada Games Centre and the Mainland North Linear Parkway Trail) as the location of the new terminal. Consultants have been engaged to evaluate traffic conditions, review the environmental and geotechnical conditions of the site, and to prepare a preliminary schematic design of the proposed terminal and calculate the estimated cost. This information will be available in Spring 2013, and will be brought to Regional Council for their consideration.

## Bike Week 2013: Call for Events & Grant Applications

HRM is calling on organizations and community groups to register their events for Bike Week 2013, taking place May 31-June 9. The registration deadline to ensure your event is included in printed promotional material is April 5.

The HRM Bike Week Committee is happy to offer Bike Week event grants again in 2013. The application deadline is 4:30 p.m. on April 5. This grant program exists to encourage and support groups in hosting Bike Week events within their own communities, and to ensure events align with HRM Bike Week goals and objectives. Grants are available in amounts up to \$150 each, and the funding may be used for food, equipment, promotion, prizes, and speaker honorariums.

A limited number of 'special' grants of up to \$2,000 each will be considered this year. These special grants will only be awarded to events that can produce high attendance numbers, focus on attracting new cyclists, and present unique opportunities in HRM.

To register your event and/or to apply for a grant, visit [www.halifax.ca/bikeweek](http://www.halifax.ca/bikeweek)

HRM Bike Week is a week-long community event that aims to celebrate all forms of cycling, improve awareness of cycling safety and education as well as increase the numbers of people cycling throughout the region. There is something for everyone, even if you do not own a bike! It is a community-driven event encouraging people of all ages and abilities to get outside and be more active. Last year's Bike Week welcomed over 5,000 participants to approximately 40 events.

## Contact

Russell Walker, Councillor

District 10 – Halifax - Bedford Basin West

Phone: 902-497-7215

Lucille Walsh, Constituency Coordinator, 490-4090

HRM website: <http://halifax.ca>

