

Property Tax Rebate for Seniors

This program, administered by Service Nova Scotia on behalf of the Department of Community Services, is designed to help eligible seniors remain in their homes by providing them with an annual rebate on their municipal property taxes.

The program provides eligible homeowners with a 50% rebate of the actual municipal property taxes paid the previous year, up to a maximum of \$800.00 per year. The rebate is always based on the property taxes paid in the previous year.

You are eligible to receive the rebate if you meet ALL of the following criteria:

- You were receiving either the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) or The Allowance in January 2014. To find out if you qualify for the GIS or The Allowance, call Service Canada at 1-800-277-9914
- You are living in your home at the time you apply for the rebate and continue to reside in your home and
- Your previous year's property taxes were paid in full

If you would like to unsubscribe to these updates, please do so by following this link.

https://apps.halifax.ca/subscriptions/unsubscribe?list=6

Free Tutoring in English as an Alternate Language

The following programs are being offered: **The Thursday program:** 6:30pm to 8:30pm

Keshen Goodman Library Cafe

Small Group Tutoring/Learning Program by Frontier College

For youths and young adults (ages 16-28)
Homework & EAL support - all subjects
The Saturday program: 10:00am to noon
St. Andrew's Community Centre
(3380 Barnstead Lane - off Bayer's Road)
Small Group Tutoring/English Language Support for Adult Learners

To register contact: Ramona Clarke at 902-494-7002 or email rclarke@frontiercollege.ca

For the online application, please Click Here

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This special concert presentation in Clayton Park West is as follows: Saturday, December 6th, 7:30 pm at St Benedict Roman Catholic Church, 45 Radcliffe Drive, Halifax.

Tickets: \$20, \$15 seniors, Family rate available.

Tickets available at the door, or in advance by calling (902)865-0822



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

Halifax residents asked to rate satisfaction with municipal programs and services

The Halifax Regional Municipality is asking residents to provide feedback on its programs and services through a Citizen Survey, issued every two years to gauge public satisfaction and help guide future municipal program planning and investment. Until Friday, December 19th, Halifax residents will have the opportunity to rate their satisfaction with municipal programs and services, including: waste collection; parking; recreation; safety; infrastructure; transportation; environment; and, other key issues impacting their community.

Approximately 12,000 randomly selected residents will receive invitations by mail to participate in the Citizen Survey online, in written form, or by telephone. MQO Research, a local independent market research firm, is conducting the survey for invited residents and will collect and manage their responses. Residents that do not receive an invitation by mail can still have their say by completing the survey online at http://fluidsurveys.com/s/2014CitizenSurvey.

Resident feedback received from the survey is important as it helps guide strategic policy decisions, measures performance and assists Regional Council in planning and allocating resources for future budget years.

Final survey results and assessments will be shared at a later date on www.halifax.ca. Click here to view results from the last Citizen Survey, conducted in 2012.

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2014 Salvation Army Christmas Kettle Campaign

The Salvation Army (Fairview Citadel) is launching its annual Christmas Kettle Campaign from November 22^{nd} - December 24^{th} , and is seeking volunteers to stand alongside their kettles at various locations in Bayers Lake, Fairview and Clayton Park. Volunteer shifts are 2-4 hours.

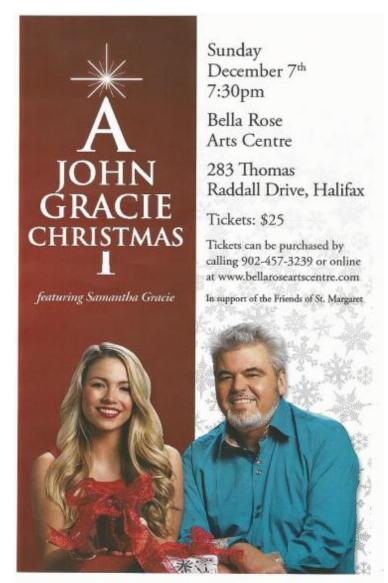
The Salvation Army recognizes that poverty is a critical issue, and that everyone has a right to access basic necessities such as nutritious food, health care, education and economic opportunity. One hundred percent of the funds raised from this campaign stay in the community and are used to support local Salvation Army Programs for people in need including family services, food baskets,

Christmas Hampers, emergency shelter and addictions counseling.

For more information or to volunteer, please contact Kettle Coordinator Devin Casario at 902-809-2769 or email

kettlecoordinator2014@gmail.com.

The Salvation Army (Fairview Citadel) thanks you for helping them meet the needs of the local community!



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2015 Volunteer Awards

Each year 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.

The nomination deadline is **Friday**, **December 12**th, **2014**.

Visit <u>www.halifax.ca/volunteerservices/awards</u> for the fillable nomination forms. Nomination criteria can be found within the forms.

For additional information or questions please contact Volunteer Services by <u>email</u> or by phone at 902-869-4018.

Heating Assistance Rebate Program 2014/15

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; or
- receive the Guaranteed Income Supplement from Service Canada.

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

For more information please visit:

http://www.novascotia.ca/snsmr/access/individuals/consumer-awareness/heating-assistance-rebate-program.asp



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Halifax Public Gardens Winter Schedule





The Halifax Public Gardens are now closed for the season,

however like last year, staff will make an effort to allow limited daytime visits as the weather and conditions in the Gardens permit.

The last official day of the season for the Gardens was November 16th. That said, from now until mid-April, if the gates are open during the week (Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.) the public is welcome to enter.

The Gardens staff will continue to monitor daily weather conditions and whether the paths inside the Gardens are safe for travelling. If the weather is bad or the paths are icy or snow-covered, the Gardens will not be open.

Visitors are also reminded that services in the Gardens will be limited during the winter season. There will be no washroom facilities and the coffee shop will be closed until the spring.

For more information on the Public Gardens, please visit http://www.halifax.ca/publicgardens.

Holiday Shopping Safety

With the holiday shopping season upon us, Halifax Regional Police and Halifax District RCMP – Partners in Policing – encourage citizens to take precautions to make their holiday shopping trips "merry and bright."

For most of us, the holiday season is a time of giving but for thieves, it could be an opportunity for stealing. They could be looking for an easy opportunity and a vehicle full of holiday purchases is a temptation they can't resist. Stay one step ahead of thieves by following these simple tips:

- Always lock your vehicle.
- Park in well-lit, well-travelled areas.
- Keep valuables out of sight, don't leave highend purchases in your vehicle and don't leave laptops, cameras, cellular phones or other electronics in your vehicle.
- Report suspicious activity to police by calling 902-490-5020. Provide the time, location and a detailed description of the individuals. This information will help police identify suspects.
- Report thefts from vehicles, even if the item stolen is inexpensive. Knowing where, when and how a theft occurred gives investigators valuable clues and helps predict if shopping areas are becoming "hot spots" for certain types of crimes.

Practicing these easy crime prevention tips will help reduce your chances of becoming a victim of crime this holiday season and make finding the perfect gift for that special someone "the most wonderful time of the year." Visit

http://www.halifax.ca/police/PublicSafety/HolidayH omeSafety.php for more safety tips, including safeproofing your house during the holidays.

Help Halifax Transit Employees Stuff A Bus!

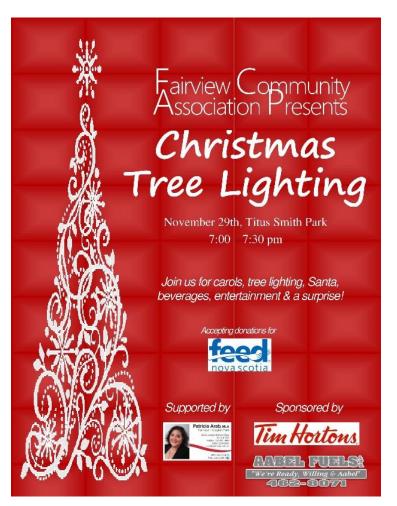
Halifax Transit is gearing up to celebrate the 24th year of stuffing a bus in support of FEED NOVA SCOTIA, and they need your help!

<u>Sign up</u> your office, business, school or day care now and start collecting non-perishable food items. On Friday, December 5th, Halifax Transit buses will come to pick up those food items and all donations will go to needy families during the holiday season.

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Last year the Stuff-A-Bus campaign brought in more than 24 tonnes of food for FEED NOVA SCOTIA. This year, Halifax Transit employees are hoping to beat that total. If you wish to make a donation before the December 5th pickup, drop off your food items to any Scotiabank location in the Halifax area.

Stuff-A-Bus is an annual initiative that was started in 1991 by Amalgamated Transit Union Local 508 to benefit local children and families who are in need during the holidays. Halifax Transit, C100, ATU Local 508 and Scotiabank are proud to support and coordinate this year's Stuff-A-Bus campaign.





Contact

Russell Walker, Councillor

District 10 - Halifax - Bedford Basin West

Phone: 902-497-7215

HRM website: http://www.halifax.ca