

Councillor Russell Walker District 10

Halifax - Bedford Basin West



HRM simplifies access to frequently requested information

The Halifax Regional Municipality is pleased to offer residents improved access to routinely requested municipal information, in conjunction with [Right to Know Week](#), September 22nd – 28th.

Residents will have greater access to frequently requested information. [Routine Disclosure Plans](#) have been created by each municipal department, which identify categories of information that can be requested without going through a formal process. Residents can submit an electronic request for any of the information listed in these plans. Requests are limited to 50 pages or less, and staff will have up to 30 days to provide the records, as per Halifax's [Routine Access Policy](#), which governs the dissemination of this information. Any information requests that exceed these limits, or fall outside the scope of the Routine Access Policy, will continue to be processed by Halifax's [Access and Privacy Office](#).

Visit www.halifax.ca/AccessPrivacy/routine-disclosures/index.php for more information on this initiative.

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

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

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 12th, 2014**.

Visit www.halifax.ca/volunteerservices/awards for the fillable nomination forms. Nomination criteria can be found within the forms. For additional information or questions please contact Volunteer Services by [email](#) or by phone at 902-869-4018.

2014-15 Professional Arts Grant Program Applications Now Available

The Halifax Regional Municipality is pleased to announce that applications are now available for the 2014-2015 Interim Professional Arts Grant Program for not-for-profit arts organizations. This program provides funding for arts organizations through two categories: operating assistance and project assistance.

Applications for both streams can be found [online](#). Applications must be submitted no later than 4:30 p.m. on Friday, October 31st, 2014. Please review the applications for a comprehensive list of submission requirements.

The 2014-2015 Interim Professional Arts Grant Program was developed as a result of recommendations from the municipality's former Special Arts and Culture Advisory Committee. Staff responded to these recommendations in a report to Regional Council, formalized subsequently in an [Administrative Order](#).

Please note that beginning in January 2015, the Professional Arts Grant Program will again be accepting applications for the 2015-16 fiscal year.

Volunteer ESL/ELL Tutors are needed at the Keshen Goodman Library

Volunteer tutors, ages 19 and over, are needed to help adults who are learning English as a Second (or additional) Language. Many participants need help with general English conversation practice and speaking skills. For more information, visit www.halifaxpubliclibraries.ca and click on "volunteer" at the bottom of the page, ask for an application at the library or contact Jen at 490-6408 or email hillj@halifax.ca.



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

Curbside Give Away Weekend – October 18th and 19th



Is anything in life free anymore? Well on October 18th & 19th you can free up space and get great free stuff. Give your clutter a second life during HRM's Curbside Give Away Weekend. Your old armchair could be someone's new throne, and your antique lamp could be someone's living room masterpiece. For details, visit www.halifax.ca/curbside.

This event happens RAIN or SHINE. Please use your discretion when deciding whether or not to put items out to the curb.

Place items at the curb on Friday evening of that weekend, place stickers or signs on items with the word "FREE" and ensure that all material is removed from the curb by dusk on Sunday evening.

Snow Removal Services Available to Seniors and Persons with Disabilities



Who Qualifies?
The snow removal program is available to seniors (65 years of age or older) and persons with disabilities in the Halifax Regional Municipality who also meet the criteria below. The program applies to residential

properties only - commercial properties are ineligible.

- The program is NOT available to landlords.
- You must reside in a single dwelling home that you own or rent.
- The gross household income of all people living on the premises must not exceed \$30,000.

How it Works: The program offers assistance to clear snow from steps and walkways, including front and back steps, walkways and fuel tank access.

To find out more about this program, please call the [YMCA](http://www.ymca.ca) at 902-483-3678. **NOTE:** Application for the program ends on December 1st OR earlier if the program reaches full capacity.

Lacewood Transit Terminal

Construction is progressing at the site of the new Lacewood Transit Terminal. Located next to the Canada Games Centre on Lacewood Drive, the site is currently under development and will be under

construction throughout the year. In July Avondale Construction Limited was awarded the design-build contract for the Lacewood Transit Terminal. As part of this contract, Avondale Construction is responsible for the design and construction of the facility, which includes the bus circulation areas, exterior passenger space, and the terminal building. The contract lays out several features that the terminal is expected to have including 12 to 14 individual bus bays, interior passenger waiting area with seating, a small retail space, public washrooms, bus shelters, bike racks and tactile strips and pads to increase accessibility. The Terminal is expected to be open in 2015.

Municipal Operations – Fall Maintenance



As the leaves begin to change – so does the maintenance focus! Municipal Operations staff concentrates on winding down summer repair programs, seasonal clean-up efforts and preparing for Winter operations.

Fall Patching - With the exception of priority pothole repairs, the asphalt patching program concludes on October 31st. This date selection is based on historical temperatures and is monitored depending on current weather. Air temperature is only one factor to consider as the effectiveness of the repair can be undermined by moisture, wind speed (wind chill), pavement temperature and the temperature of the hot asphalt itself.

Leaf Removal - Leaf removal from municipal streets will be a **one-time only service**, on a street-by-street basis, in the heavily treed areas of the former City of Halifax, and as required in the other areas of the Urban Core Boundary of HRM.

Residents are asked to place excess leaves in the organics green cart, clear or orange plastic bags or heavy paper bags. Bags should be placed beside your green cart for collection. Using the proper leaf collection bag helps haulers identify materials being collected and ensures the contents are transported to the correct processing facility. There is a 20 bag limit for curb side collection with a maximum weight limit of 25 kg (55 lb) per bag.

Trees in a number of areas of HRM have been affected by tar spot. Tar spot is a black mould spot on leaves. Tar spot overwinters on infected leaves that have fallen to the ground. The following spring when the new leaves start to unfold, the fungal tissue in the leaves left on the ground ripens and needle like spores are carried by the wind thereby infecting the newly unfolded leaves. Do not mulch mow or place black spotted leaves around shrubs as the fungus will remain on your property. All leaves that are black spotted are to go in the green cart, clear or orange plastic bags or a large paper bag for collection.

In accordance with [HRM Streets By-Law S-300](#), Section 43, residents shall not sweep or deposit leaves in the gutter or roadway. The potential for street flooding is greatly increased when catch basins are clogged with leaves. If you have any questions, please call 311. For more information check out the HRM website at www.halifax.ca.

Construction in Titus/Main/Bedford Highway area

The sidewalk, curb renewal and paving work continue in the area of Titus/Main/Bedford Highway. The scheduled date for the completion of this work is November 7th.

Renewal and Paving work continues on Titus/Main and Bedford Highway.

Protect yourself from Identity Theft

Identity theft is a reality and has become more common with advancements in technology. It involves the unauthorized collection and use of personal data, usually for criminal purposes. Essentially, criminals can use your personal information – your name, date of birth, address, social insurance number, credit card information and other banking details – to create a false identity to open bank accounts, secure credit, obtain utilities and services, rent vehicles, equipment or accommodations and even get a job.

To learn how to protect yourself, visit

<http://www.halifax.ca/Police/Programs/fraudprevention.php>

Launch of Halifax Collision Reporting Centre

As of September 10, people in HRM can access an enhanced level of service when reporting motor vehicle collisions.

Citizens who are involved in an accident that doesn't require an officer to come to the scene, can drive their vehicle or have it towed to the Halifax Collision Reporting Centre located at Police Headquarters, 1975 Gottingen Street in Halifax. Staff members will help citizens complete an electronic copy of the

police collision report and take photos and measurements of the damage to their vehicle. This information can be shared electronically with insurance companies, resulting in a faster insurance claim response.

The centre is part of the pilot phase of a partnership between Accident Support Services International Ltd. (ASSI) and Halifax Regional Police. The ASSI model increases efficiency, data integrity and reduces insurance fraud. In addition to enhanced service to citizens, through its Microsoft award-winning Collision Reporting and Occurrence Management System (CROMS), ASSI provides real-time access to collision data and reports for police agencies and participating insurance companies.

The centre is open 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday to Friday, and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. There are a few parking spots dedicated for the collision centre in front of Headquarters. Citizens are reminded to bring their driver's license, vehicle registration, proof of insurance and any other pertinent information related to the collision.

Citizens who are unable to go to the collision reporting centre can complete a collision report Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the following HRP community police offices:

- 15 Convoy Run, Bedford
- 7 Mellor Avenue, Dartmouth
- 7001 Mumford Road, Halifax
- 264 Herring Cove Road, Spryfield

Hopscotch Halifax—September 26th to 28th

The three-day festival will see dance, art and music take over the waterfronts in Dartmouth and Halifax, with major events featuring some of the world's best entertainers. The festivals will wrap up Sunday night with a live concert at the Cunard Centre

September 24, 2014

featuring Lil Jon and Tech N9ne. For more details visit www.halifax.ca/hopscotch/.

2014 HRM Volunteer Conference

In its 14th year, the Volunteer Conference gives volunteers an opportunity to participate in training, networking and learning that help them become more effective in their work and provide strong volunteer capacity in the Halifax region.

The conference includes:

- * A wide selection of interactive and informative sessions
- * Dynamic and experienced speakers
- * Lunch and refreshments
- * Networking opportunities
- * Participant welcome packages
- * Community showcase

Friday, November 21 & Saturday, November 22, 2014

Harbourview Holiday Inn, Dartmouth

For more information: call 902-869-4755 or visit www.halifax.ca/volunteerservices

Contact

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

