



Fairview - Clayton Park District 15 Newsletter Halifax Regional Municipality

Councillor Russell Walker

Winter 2011



Russell Walker, Councillor - District 15

Halifax Regional Municipality
P.O. Box 1749
Halifax, NS B3J 3A5

Home.....443-8010
Cell.....497-7215
Home Fax.....443-6513
City Hall.....490-4050
City Hall Fax.....490-4122
E-mail.....walkerr@halifax.ca

Electronic Updates

I am starting an address list for electronic updates for District and HRM issues. If you would like to have your name added to the mailing list for these updates, please forward your email address to walsbl@halifax.ca and include in the subject line 'District 15 updates'. Keep up to date on what is happening in your neighbourhood.

Addresses will not be shared.

Dear Residents

I extend greetings to all residents of District 15 and welcome new residents to our area. As your municipal Councillor, I value your input and ideas. I am always pleased to hear from you and encourage you to contact me with your concerns or suggestions.

The past year was a particularly successful one for HRM. The Canada Winter Games was an enormous success and left a legacy with the new Canada Games Centre and the skating oval. Thank you to all volunteers who helped make the Games a success.

There are a number of fun activities happening around HRM during the winter months. For a list of activities, please check out HRM's website at www.halifax.ca.

As the holiday season approaches, my wife Cheryl and I extend best wishes for all the blessings of the season and a healthy and prosperous New Year!

Site of Former Halifax West High School

At a recent Public Hearing the land of the site of the former Halifax West High School was rezoned to allow for a development of mixed commercial and residential which allows for the developer, United Gulf, to proceed with their proposal for this site. The next step will be a Development Agreement, following which the building process will begin.

The plans for the site received a great deal of support from both businesses and residents of the area. A petition of support contained over 600 names, 90 out of 108 surrounding properties were in favour, and at the Public Hearing, 18 out of 25 speakers were supportive of the project. The previous Halifax West High School playing field will remain as HRM property and will be available for public use. This is 1.62 acres, one quarter of the property, which can be used for recreation. The project should help in the revitalization of the Fairview area.

City Watch

City Watch is a computerized messaging system with the ability to swiftly inform citizens and businesses of imminent hazards and current issues such as emergency alerts – evacuations, major fires, weather events, crime alerts, lost children, and road closures. Residents and businesses registered with City Watch will receive notifications providing critical information relative to their area of HRM via telephone and/or e-mail. City Watch is available free to citizens, organizations and businesses located in HRM. To register, send an e-mail with your name, telephone number, mailing address and e-mail address to macdona@halifax.ca, or mail to City Watch Coordinator, Halifax Regional Police, 1975 Gottingen Street, Halifax, NS B3J 2H1 or fax to 490-7421.

Awards

Each year HRM, as a way of promoting awareness of municipal government, recognizes Junior High School students who exemplify the qualities of a good citizen. The 2011 Citizenship Award recipient from District 15 is Cora Lee Leblanc from Fairview Junior High School. Congratulations Cora on your efforts!



Congratulations to all recipients! On behalf of the residents of District 15, I extend a special thank you for your commitment to making our community a better place to live.

Each year HRM recognizes volunteers who are nominated by community groups and organizations for their significant contribution to our community. Congratulations to Linda Pottie, Helen Yeates, George Grigoryan, Audrey Matheson, David Carter and Aaron Lewis on receiving awards for District 15.



Linda Pottie



Helen Yeates



George Grigoryan



Audrey Matheson



David Carter



Aaron Lewis

How to get involved in local Council Issues

Our district is part of Chebucto Community Council which meets regularly the first Monday of each month, with the exception of holidays. The meetings are held at the Keshen Goodman Library, 330 Lacewood Drive at 7 p.m. Agendas and reports can be found at <http://www.halifax.ca/commcoun/cc.html>. Community Councils consider local matters such as development applications, variances, and parks. They also make recommendations to Regional Council and provide opportunities for public input. At Community Council residents have an opportunity to express their opinions during public hearings. Each meeting contains a public participation component and residents can make a presentation at that time.

Chain of Lakes Trail

The Chain of Lakes Trail official opening was held on June 18th, 2011. This 7.25 km rail trail will extend from Joseph Howe Avenue to the beginning of the Beechville Lakeside Timberlea Trail. Whether you enjoy biking, walking or enjoying nature, the trail has something for everyone.

Over 400 Nova Scotians have volunteered to become Trail Wardens. They are ambassadors in the sense that they share information, keep an eye on the trail, foster trail etiquette, and monitor trail activity, regulations and safety. The Chain of Lakes Trail has one trained warden only which isn't enough as these ambassadors must travel in pairs. We're looking for trail users to step up and help us out. The training is free and a course can be set up if there are 12 to 15 volunteers. Trail Wardens are not enforcement officers but public relations officers. They monitor trail conditions and watch for potential hazards. Wardens need to undertake the training and they need to commit time on a regular basis to patrol the trail.



View information at www.novascotiailtrailpatrol.com/trailpatrol/. If you think you are ready to commit, email Colta.Association@gmail.com.

The source of most complaints by trail users is dog owners. On the Chain of Lakes Trail, all dogs must be kept on a leash and under control. Some owners do not pick up after their dog and leave dog waste in the middle of the trail. Others will pick up after their dog, then throw the plastic bag into the vegetation beside the trail. These actions are against the law. There are bags and garbage bins at the major access points along the trail so please use them. There were coyote sightings on the trail last winter. If you see a coyote, do not show fear. More information about coyotes is available on the Department of Natural Resources website at www.gov.ns.ca/natr.

Trail etiquette is especially important on multi-use trails like the Chain of Lakes Trail. The basic rule is "Wheels yield to heels". There are many children on the trail so please keep in mind the speed limit is 20 km/hr. **HAPPY TRAILS!**

Mural on Main Avenue

Many of you may have noticed the historical mural on Main Avenue, depicting Dutch Village. Dutch Village no longer exists on government maps, although one of Halifax's main arteries, Dutch Village Road, derives its name from the original settlement. Dutch Village began as a humble eighteenth-century settlement, nothing more than a grassy trail and a few pioneer homes nestled along the west side of the peninsula between the Northwest Arm and the Bedford Basin.

Over time, Dutch Village disappeared due to the expansion of Fairview from the north and Armdale from the South. In 1894, the district lying at the northwest end of Halifax within Dutch Village was unofficially called Fairview. Armdale became known as such in 1917. From 1894 to 1941, Fairview and Armdale were both part of a district called the Northwest Arm. Fairview was named officially in the federal census of 1941. By 1952, although Dutch Village Road still ran from the Arm Bridge to the railway undercut at Fairview, "Dutch Village" had ceased to be a proper place name.

Thank you to Curphey Forrestall, Artist, for his great work in painting the mural of Dutch Village.



Snow Removal: What to Expect

The safety of residents is HRM's top priority. During the winter season, it's especially important that we watch out for one another. In times of inclement weather, HRM crews will be busy working to keep the streets and sidewalks in our neighbourhoods free from snow and ice for the protection of all residents. HRM encourages residents and businesses to plan ahead when snow and ice are in the forecast and to keep your vehicles off the street in compliance with the winter parking ban. This will improve conditions for everyone's safety and will help HRM meet service delivery standards for snow removal. HRM thanks you for your cooperation and patience in the event of snowstorms. Working together we can have a safe and enjoyable winter season.

HRM is committed to keeping streets and sidewalks clear and safe from snow and ice. Even before a snow event occurs, HRM's snow operations are set in motion to facilitate safe movement for both motorists and pedestrians. Snow and ice operations, however, do take time. The goal is to set an attainable standard which align the levels of service with the financial constraints of the HRM budget. In order to achieve this standard, routes must be classified based on their impact on the overall transportation system. HRM has classified all of the routes and will service them (salt, sand and plow) in the following order of priority:

- **Priority 1 Streets & Roads** – First priority streets include main arterials, emergency routes to hospitals and fire equipment, major bus routes, and snow routes in major hilly terrain during weather situations. HRM's goal is to make Class 1 streets safe and clear of snow within 12 hours of the end of snowfall.
- **Priority 2 Streets & Roads** – Second Priority Streets include residential and rural routes with medium to low volume traffic, gravel roads, and private lanes which HRM is responsible for. HRM's goal is to make Class 2 streets passable within 24 hours of the end of snowfall.

At the request of Regional Council, HRM's Traffic Authority is implementing a one-year trial period for an amended winter parking ban. The changes are intended to offer some flexibility to those who are most affected by the ban, such as business owners and shift workers, without compromising HRM's snow and ice clearing operations. Changes this year include:

- The overnight parking regulations, which can be implemented anytime between December 15th and March 31st, will only be enforced during declared snow and ice operations
- When the parking ban is in effect, it will be from 1 a.m. to 6 a.m. – ending one hour earlier than in previous years.

Residents are advised to prepare for the winter season now by securing off-street parking for when the overnight parking ban is in effect. **HRM reminds residents that provincial legislation (Section 139 of the Motor Vehicle Act) requires that people remove their vehicles from the streets, day or night, in the event of a snow or ice event. Vehicles obstructing snow removal or winter maintenance operations can be removed at the owner's cost, regardless of time or date.** Weather conditions and clearing operations will determine how long an overnight ban will be in effect. HRM will issue public service announcements to alert the public when the ban is in effect and when it has been lifted and timely information will be posted on www.halifax.ca and on HRM's twitter feed "[hfxgov](https://twitter.com/hfxgov)".

For information on HRM's street and sidewalk snow clearing service standards, please visit www.halifax.ca/snow. Residents can also call 490-4000 for up-to-date information on all of HRM's winter operations.

Recycle all Your Plastic

As of September 1st, HRM residents can place **ALL PLASTIC CONTAINERS** in the blue bag for recycling. No more checking for numbers on the bottom. This includes:

- Plastic bottles, jugs and jars for beverages (including milk), shampoo, lotion, cleaners, windshield washer fluid, and other household liquids
- Plastic food tubs and containers for yogurt, margarine, sour cream, cottage cheese, cookies, fruit & vegetable trays, salads, plastic clamshells and ice cream containers
- Plastic bags and wrap from grocery, bread, produce and frozen vegetable bags, bubble wrap and other plastic film/wrap items
- Place all bags and wrap in a grocery bag, tie, then place in the blue bag with other recyclables.

Items that go in the garbage include:

- Styrofoam
- Non-container plastics such as: bottle caps, toys, DVD cases, plastic cutlery, coffee/pop cups and lids, cereal box liners, straws, pipe, packaging that is made of a combination of plastic plus paper, bulky items that do not fit in the blue bag.



Please note - Due to the delivery routes followed by Canada Post, it is possible that some of these newsletters may appear in other districts. Please accept my apology for any confusion.