

Regional Council Adopts Open Data Concept

On September 25th, Halifax Regional Council voted unanimously in favour of a new open data initiative that will enable the public release of a selection of HRM data sets free of charge, and to engage citizens and industry experts in an open data application contest. HRM staff has identified 15 readily available data sets that could be released as soon as a third-party website platform is secured to host the data catalogue, which is estimated to happen within the next few months. HRM will be looking to citizens to provide feedback on additional data sets for release, and continue to work on compiling, verifying and posting more data sets as they become available. The highest quality data has been selected for the initial release to ensure any data released is complete and accurate, free of private information, and that it is data of interest and value to HRM citizens.

Following the release of the first data sets HRM will host an open data application contest to inspire the development of innovative, interesting, and userfriendly applications using HRM's data. More details on the contest scope, time lines and prizes will be communicated over the next several months. For more information on the open data initiative you can visit www.halifax.ca/council/agendasc/documents/120925ca1 114.pdf.

2013 HRM Volunteer Awards

Each year the Mayor and Halifax Regional Council recognize the extraordinary contributions of individuals and groups who volunteer their time and skills to provide services and programs in HRM communities.

HRM is now accepting nominations for the 2013 Volunteer Awards. Nominations are accepted in three categories: adult, youth (ages 13-19) and community group. To find out more about the awards, nomination criteria, and applications to nominate someone who's made a difference in your community, visit www.halifax.ca/volunteerservices. Successful nominees will be notified in March 2013 and will be invited to attend a ceremony and reception taking place on April 24, 2013 when they will be officially presented with their award by the Mayor and the Councillor from their district. From those selected to receive an HRM Volunteer Award, ten representatives will be sent on to the Provincial Volunteer Awards. The deadline for nominations for the 2013 awards is Friday, December 14, 2012.

Contact

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