



COUNCILLOR MATT WHITMAN
DISTRICT 13 ONLINE NEWS
HAMMONDS PLAINS - ST. MARGARETS

FERRY NAMING CONTEST WINNER

The votes are in, and our new ferry has a name! Viola Desmond was the winner of the latest Halifax Transit ferry naming contest.

Viola Desmond was born and raised in Halifax. She trained as a teacher but then joined her husband in the operation of a combined barbershop and beauty parlour on Gottingen Street. She became famous in New Glasgow, NS in 1946 when she unknowingly sat in the Whites only section of a movie theatre that practiced segregation. She was not permitted to stay, and was detained overnight although she offered to pay the extra required to sit in this section. Her story highlighted the need to address segregation in Canada and raised awareness of the African Canadian situation nationally and internationally.

Viola Desmond will now be submitted to Transport Canada for consideration and final approval as the name of the new ferry. This is the final of three new vessels that will replace aging infrastructure in the fleet of five harbour ferries – bringing more continuity and efficiency to Halifax Transit’s ferry services. The Viola Desmond ferry is set to go into service this summer.

WHITE HILLS RESIDENTS AGM

If you are a resident of the White Hills Subdivision, join the White Hills Residence Association for their annual general meeting on Tuesday March 1st at 7:00 p.m. at the Tantallon Library. Follow them on [Facebook](#) for more details.

GEOFF REGAN HOSTS LET’S TALK ON YOUTH RETENTION

Join MP Geoff Regan for a conversation on Youth Retention, an opportunity for young professionals to learn about career opportunities that will allow them to stay in Nova Scotia. This event will be held on March 1st from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. at Freeman’s Little New York on Dutch Village Road.

SPRING/SUMMER RECREATION

The Halifax Rec Spring and Summer program guide is now available, and registration has begun! There are recreation and fitness programs available for all ages and abilities, check out the [guide online](#) for more details and registration dates.



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CENTRE PLAN CONSULTATION

The Halifax Regional Municipality is pleased to be initiating the next phase of the Centre Plan public consultation process.

The [Centre Plan](#) will consolidate existing municipal planning strategies and land use by-laws for the Regional Centre into one combined policy and by-law set. By focusing on land use and design, mobility, public spaces, culture and heritage, housing, sustainability and jobs and economic development, the Centre Plan will shape how our Regional Centre grows in the future.

Whether you work, play or live in the regional centre, we need your input to make it work for everyone. Check out our new [website](#) to learn more about the plan, sign up for updates and take our survey. A [launch event](#) will also be held on Monday March 21st from 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. at Alderney Landing to kick off the development of the Centre Plan.

HALIFAX WATER SEASONAL DISINFECTION PROGRAM

From March 1st – April 30th 2016 Halifax Water will be conducting a two month trial of the seasonal disinfection program.

The program will shut down the Ultra Violet (UV) light disinfection at the Halifax, Dartmouth, Herring Cove and Eastern Passage wastewater treatment facilities. All other treatment processes will continue to operate year around. The trial aims to reduce electricity, lower greenhouse gas emissions, allow for maintenance and potentially extend UV equipment lifespan.

For more information or to provide feedback, see their [website](#).

CENOTAPH CONSTRUCTION BEGINS

The [Greater Hammonds Plains Lucasville Memorial Committee](#) has been hard at work preparing to have a new Veterans Memorial created at Uplands Park.

Construction began early this month, and the foundation is now complete. This memorial will be a special gathering place for the people of Hammonds Plains to remember our military personnel for generations to come. The group is urging the public to exercise caution around the site over the next six months while construction continues. The project is expected to be complete in August.

I look forward to seeing you all there for Remembrance Day 2016 to honour our veterans, those who continue to serve and those who lost their lives fighting for our great nation.

HALIFAX GREEN NETWORK PLAN

The Halifax Regional Municipality wants your input on the Halifax Green Network Plan.

The Green Network Plan will be a blueprint for the municipality to protect our communities' land and water resources. Being deliberate in how we protect and use open space over the long-term is important for sustainable growth and the development of more livable, complete communities. Phase 2 of the planning process is now underway, and public meetings will be held to present the key findings from Phase 1 and a draft planning framework for public input.

Find out more about the Green Network Plan by attending a public meeting on April 1st, 2016 from 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. at the [Estabrooks Community Hall](#) or by checking out their [website](#).



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HALIFAX REGIONAL POLICE

VOLUNTEERS

Halifax Regional Police are currently [recruiting volunteers](#) to make a difference in our community. Interested residents can apply to work with the [Burnside Watch](#), [Citizens on Patrol](#) or [Victim Services](#). These volunteer positions support our policing service and provide challenging and rewarding opportunities. Apply today by completing a [Volunteer Programs Application](#) form.



Open 7 days a week from 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. (except Christmas Day & New Year's Day)

SPRING WEIGHT RESTRICTIONS ON MUNICIPAL ROADS

To minimize potential damage to municipal streets and roads, the Halifax Regional Municipality has implemented it's Spring Weight Restrictions from February 29th – April 25th on municipally maintained roads in the former County of Halifax. There are some exceptions to the weight restrictions, these and other information can be found on our [website](#).

HAMMONDS PLAINS FARMERS' MARKET

The [Hammonds Plains Farmers' Market](#) is an indoor farmers' market with fresh and local produce, bread, cheese, meats, seafood, and much more. The Market strives to provide the best possible range of fresh-from-the-farm products, to support and promote our local food producers and artisans of Nova Scotia. You can find them every Thursday from 2:00 – 6:00 p.m. at the [St. John's Anglican Church](#).

TOWN HALL MEETING



On Tuesday March 15th, I'll be joining Member of Legislative Assembly (MLA) Iain Rankin (Timberlea – Prospect) and Member of Parliament (MP) Bernadette Jordan (South Shore – St. Margaret's) for a Town Hall Meeting.

Stop by the [Tantallon Public Library](#) at 7:00 p.m. to meet your representatives, discuss issues and brainstorm new ideas for your community.

COMMUNITY GARDENS APPLICATIONS

Community Gardens provide opportunities to interact with our neighbours, add beauty to the area, encourage environmental sustainability and promote active living.

If you'd like to start a community garden on HRM property, applications must be submitted to our staff by March 15th, 2016. To apply for a new community garden, fill out the form [here](#).

OPEN DATA CATALOGUE

Check out the latest data sets in our Open Data Catalogue. The HRM has just released two new data sets, Building Permit Records (2003 – Present) and LIDAR Digital Surface Model data can be found online. The open data initiative was first launched in 2014 to help improve citizen engagement. For more information on the Municipality's open data program, visit our [website](#).



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2016-17 BUDGET DELIBERATIONS

Regional Council has been reviewing the 2016-17 departmental budgets in a series of Committee of the Whole meetings where each department presents their budgets and plans to Council for their review. A full budget review will now happen on Tuesday March 8th beginning at 10:00 a.m. Stop by City Hall or tune in to the [live stream](#) to watch the proceeding from home.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

Police have launched a new Human Trafficking Awareness Campaign aimed at the hospitality and transportation industries.

Human trafficking and sexual exploitation can happen in communities of all sizes and unfortunately our province is not immune to their impact. The *Say Something if you See Something* education and awareness campaign will help employees in these industries identify and report potentially illegal situations.

To download the free resource kit, check out the campaign [website](#).

COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM

The Community Grants Program provides project and capital grants to registered non-profit organizations and charities located throughout the Municipality. The 2016 Community Grants Program opened for applications on Monday, January 4th, 2016 and the deadline to submit is March 31st, 2016. You can find the guidebook and application form [online](#), or contact staff for further information at 902.490.7310

THE ORDER OF NOVA SCOTIA

The Order of Nova Scotia is awarded annually to individuals who have made an impact with outstanding contributions to fields such as academics, culture, leadership, human rights, industry, justice, entrepreneurship and sports. It is the highest honour of the Province of Nova Scotia.

The province is now asking for submissions for the 2016 Order of Nova Scotia program. Please go to the [Protocol Office website](#) to download a [nomination form](#).

The closing date for submissions is Friday, March 18th, 2016.



You can subscribe to Deputy Mayor Matt Whitman's online district update anytime by filling out this [form](#).

Your email address will not be shared, and you can [unsubscribe](#) at any time.

DEPUTY MAYOR MATT WHITMAN COUNCILLOR DISTRICT 13 HAMMONDS PLAINS – ST. MARGARET'S

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