Councillor John Young

HAMMONDS PLAINS - UPPER HAMMONDS PLAINS - LUCASVILLE - MIDDLE & UPPER SACKVILLE

DISTRICT 14 NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2026

DEAR RESIDENTS,

As we close out another year in District 14, I want to take a moment to reflect on the progress, challenges, and community spirit that defined the past 15 months as your district Councillor. From local projects and neighbourhood improvements to the many events and initiatives led by dedicated residents and partners, this year highlighted what we can accomplish when we work together.

So much of our work at City Hall is shaped by your input, your emails, conversations, ideas, and concerns. Thank you for your engagement, patience, and commitment to making our community stronger.

Your continued engagement helps strengthen our community and ensures that District 14 remains a vibrant and welcoming place to live.

To stay up to date on things that are happening in our community, please consider subscribing to my monthly e-newsletter. Email Victoria.palmeter@halifax.ca to be added to the list.

I look forward to building on this momentum in the year ahead.

John

CONTACT US

Contact 311 to reach the 311 Municipal Contact Centre or visit halifax.ca/311 to report a municipal issue. Please call 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday to Friday and 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, except Christmas and New Years Day.

CALL MY OFFICE

For assistance with municipal issues, you can also contact my Constituency Coordinator, Victoria Palmeter by email at **victoria.palmeter@halifax.ca** or by calling **902.490.2012**.

CONTACT ME

You can reach me at **902.943.9241** or by email **john.young@halifax.ca**

OTHER USEFUL NUMBERS

Council Support Office Main Line: 902.490.4050

Police, Fire and Emergency: 911

Police (non-emergency): 902.490.5020

Fire (non-emergency): 902.490.5530

Halifax Water Customer Service: 902.420.9287

Halifax Water Emergency: 902.420.9287

NS Power Outage Line: 1.877.428.6004

24-7 Mental Health Mobile Crisis Team: 1.888.429.8167

MICROTRANSIT SERVICE PLAN

Regional Council approved Halifax Transit's Microtransit Service Plan in February, and staff will be preparing detailed information on requirements to implement it going into the 2027/28 budget process.

Microtransit is an on-demand, shared-ride transit service primarily geared towards communities outside the conventional transit boundary.

If the project is approved, Lucasville has been selected to be the first community to receive Microtransit as a pilot in the plan's Proof-of-Concept stage.

Microtransit typically uses smaller vehicles and a digital booking system to coordinate rides efficiently over large areas.

Prior to launch, Halifax Transit would work in collaboration with community leaders to determine potential service hours, stop locations and ways to communicate with residents about the service. Regular engagement and feedback on the service would occur throughout the proof-of-concept stage.

For more information, search Microtransit on halifax.ca.

LUCASVILLE GREENWAY- RURAL ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM

Between Jan. 12 and Feb. 17, 2026, staff completed the latest round of community engagement for the Lucasville Greenway project, a multi-use pathway along the Lucasville Road.

The Lucasville Greenway concept was originally developed by the Lucasville Greenway Society, a community led organization, as a 3m sidewalk type facility for walking, cycling or rolling. The concept includes four segments between Old Lucasville Rd and Hammonds Plains Rd.

HRM received grants from both the federal and provincial government for the construction of the second segment from the Wallace Lucas Community Centre to Wilson's Farmers Market pathway of 1.7 km. The remainder of construction costs would be covered under the municipality's General Tax Rate. However future maintenance of the built infrastructure would have to be funded through an area rate. Originally, the rate was $0.033/$100 taxable property value but public feedback indicated a lack of support so Regional Council approved a reduction of the area rate to $0.021 per $100 taxable (capped) property value.

Staff is reviewing the feedback and will present a report to North West Community Council in the Spring which will include results from all three community engagements as well as traffic report data. Pending North West Council support and support of the area rate, a report will be advanced to Regional Council for approval of the area rate and final area rate boundary.

Staff has completed functional planning for this segment. Pending Regional Council approval of the area rate, staff can proceed with detail design for Segment 2 in 2026-2027 and could be implementing the construction project in 2027-2028.

For more information on this project, visit engagehalifax.ca/rural-active-transportation.

Lucasville Heritage Day with MLA Rick Burns

2026-2027 BUDGET UPDATE

Regional Council has reviewed each business unit's budget and business plan and provided feedback to shape the final 2026/27 municipal operating and capital budgets.

Members of Council had the opportunity to hear feedback from residents, ask questions of staff from each department and move any changes to the draft budget to the Budget Adjustment List (BAL) for final review.

The final budget is expected to be completed for consideration at the March 31 Regional Council meeting. For more information on the budget process and to view all the proposed capital and operating budgets, visit halifax.ca/budget.

COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM DEADLINE

The Halifax Regional Municipality is now accepting applications for the 2026 Community Grants Program.

The Community Grants Program provides annual cash grants to registered non-profit organizations and charities located throughout the region. The program ensures organizations across the municipality have equal opportunities to seek funding for projects that help make their community a great place to live and work for all residents.

There are two types of grants available: a project grant of up to $5,000 and a capital grant of up to $25,000. Funding is available for projects in the following categories:

- Community arts
- Diversity and accessibility
- Environment and climate change
- Emergency assistance and public safety
- Community histories
- Leisure
- Recreation

Applicants are encouraged to review the Program Guidebook before applying. First-time applicants should contact staff for guidance prior to submission. The deadline to apply is Tuesday, March 31, 2026.

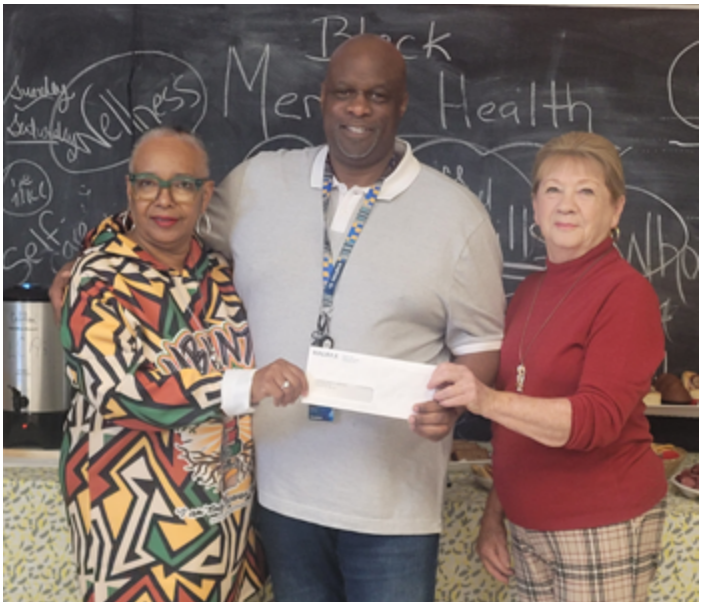
For more information, including how to apply, visit halifax.ca/community-grants.

DISTRICT CAPITAL GRANTS

Each Councillor has access to a district capital fund, a grant that can be provided to offset HRM project costs or be donated to community groups. Here are some of the projects we supported in the past year:

- Mobile Food Market - New Delivery Vehicle
- NS Sport Hall of Fame Redesign
- Building Futures Employment Society - sensory equipment purchase for sensory room
- Wallace Lucas Community Centre - Smart TV with stand, smart projector and event speakers
- Upper Hammonds Plains Community Development Association - homecoming weekend
- Beechville Baptist Church - driveway paving and cemetery repair
- Health Association of African Canadians - Printing costs for 500 Black Lives Living Well booklets
- Lucasville Greenway Society - Support LGS Walk Fun Day
- Wallace Lucas Community Centre - Canada Day carnival
- Bedford South School, Home/School Association - Concrete pad for accessible playground equipment
- Africville Heritage Trust - Marina & Sailing School
- Funding for a dock on Sandwick Drive
- Meals on Wheels Sackville Bedford
- Northern Star Music Society - “Strengthening the Spiritual Journey of Fathers & Sons” event funding
- Pride crosswalks
- Lucasville United Baptist Church - Youth for Truth program laptop/office supplies
- Wallace Lucas Community Centre - 2026 Black History Month Celebration Event
- Springfield Lake Recreation Centre - Equipment to expand community play group
- Lucasville Community Association - Cemetery Restoration Project
- Sackville Business Association - printing, promotion, and program costs for Sackville Snow Days initiative
- The Canadian Naval Memorial Trust

For more information on the District Capital Grants, visit my website halifax.ca/city-hall/districts-councillors/district-14/district-activity-district-capital-funds



HALIFAX ALERT SYSTEM

Sign up for hfxALERT, the Halifax Regional Municipality's mass notification system, to receive critical and non-urgent alerts, as well as municipal winter parking ban notices.

To find out more and to register, visit halifax.ca/hfxalert.

311 MUNICIPAL SERVICES AND INFORMATION

For routine municipal matters such as reporting potholes, requesting traffic calming assessments, garbage collection and much more, please contact 311 or email contactus@311.halifax.ca.

When you contact 311, your request is logged and tracked to ensure follow-up and action by the appropriate department. Please be sure to advise the agent if you would like to receive a follow up from staff regarding your service request.

For more information about how to connect with 311, please visit: halifax.ca/home/311.

I currently serve on the following boards and committees along with Regional Council:

- North West Community Council
- Transportation Standing Committee
- Active Transportation Standing Committee
- Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities
- African Descent Advisory Committee

Lions Club Monument Unveiling

Sackville Town Hall Meeting

WORDS TO LIVE BY

"He who does not know one thing knows another." (Never Stop Learning)
- African Proverb

Please recycle.

Delivery Note:
Due to the delivery routes followed by Canada Post, it is possible that some of these newsletters may appear in other Districts. If you receive it in error, I apologize for any confusion and hope you find its content useful.