COUNCILLOR JOHN YOUNG
DISTRICT 14 NEWSLETTER
Hammonds Plains - Upper Hammonds Plains - Lucasville - Middle & Upper Sackville

WELCOME AUGUST

Hello and welcome to the August edition my e-newsletter.

Summer is in full swing, and I hope you are all enjoying the warmer weather and longer days.

It has been a busy month connecting with residents, attending Council meetings and community events.

This month, I'll be sharing updates on municipal events, community information and general HRM news.

John

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AUGUST MEETING DATES

Regional Council, North West Community Council and Standing Committee meetings will be held on:

Regional Council:
Tuesday, August 25 at 10 a.m.

North West Community Council:

- Monday, August 10 at 6 p.m.

Standing Committees:

Appeals Standing Committee

- No meeting scheduled for August

Audit & Finance Standing Committee

- Wednesday, August 12 1 p.m.

Executive Standing Committee

- Monday, August 24 10 a.m.

Special Events Advisory Committee

- Wednesday, August 12 9:30 a.m.

ACADIAN HERITAGE MONTH

Acadian Heritage Month is recognized in Nova Scotia each August, with National Acadian Day celebrated annually on Aug. 15. The municipality will be kicking off celebrations with an Acadian Flag Raising Ceremony at noon on Friday, Aug. 14 in Grand Parade. With a rich history in our province, the municipality is home to the largest Acadian and Francophone population in Nova Scotia.

National Acadian Day is celebrated by colourful community festivals and family events, including the tradition of the tintamarre, where people march through their communities making noise to celebrate the vitality and solidarity of the Acadian community. For details on celebrations around the city, you can find more information on our website.

The municipality is committed to strengthening French-language services and our relationship with Acadian and Francophone communities now and into the future. In June 2021, Regional Council unanimously adopted the French Language Services Strategy, which guides the strategic use of resources across the organization to better serve and engage Acadian and Francophone residents. To learn more about the strategy, visit our website.

ON-STREET PARKING RATE CHANGES

To improve access and encourage turnover of short-term parking in busy commercial areas, new on-street parking rates have been introduced.

Effective Wednesday, July 15, on-street parking rates in the Halifax Regional Municipality increased by 25 per cent, rounded to the nearest $0.25. Monthly commuter parking permit fees also increased by $20.

Additionally, paid parking will be in effect on Saturdays in Downtown Halifax parking Zones B and C and Downtown Dartmouth parking Zone H. The first hour of Saturday parking will be free when a parking session is registered through a pay station or the HotSpot app.

The Saturday parking changes, weekday rate increases and commuter parking permit fee increases were approved as part of Regional Council's 2026-27 budget.

Residents can check parking zone locations and parking rates using the online parking map at halifax.ca/parking. Before travelling, consider taking transit or the ferry, or check whether your destination is located within a paid parking zone.

For more information, visit our website or contact 311.

CLAM HARBOUR BEACH SANDCASTLE COMPETITION

The 45th Clam Harbour Beach Sandcastle Competition will take place this year on Sunday, Aug. 23. This annual event attracts more than 10,000 people to the Eastern Shore each year for a day of fun in the sun.

Residents can enjoy activities for the whole family starting at 9 a.m. Those interested in participating in the competition can register at the Registration Tent upon arrival. The tent will be open from the start of the event until noon. No advance registration is required. Cash prizes will be awarded in all sandcastle and sand sculpture categories.

First-aid personnel and provincial lifeguards will be on site throughout the event. Residents are encouraged to bring water and sunscreen while enjoying the sandcastle creations. Cash-only food vendors will also be available.

For more information about the event and category eligibility, visit our website.

WEEKLY GREEN BIN COLLECTION RESUMES

Weekly green cart collection is back from June 29 to Oct. 2, 2026, in all communities to support residents during the warmer months. This enhanced service is designed to manage increased organic waste, reduce odours, and limit wildlife attractions in summer months.

Simple steps—like wrapping food waste, using paper liners, and storing carts in shaded areas—can help keep green carts clean and reduce odours as well.

Residents are asked to place materials curbside before 7 a.m. on collection day and ensure all items are securely contained. You can find customized collection schedules for your community using the Halifax Recycles app or on the municipal website.

YOUTH SAFETY STRATEGY SURVEY

The Halifax Regional Municipality is developing a Youth Safety Strategy in partnership with the Students Commission of Canada (SCC) to better understand how youth experience safety in their communities. The strategy will help guide efforts to strengthen youth safety, well-being, belonging and violence prevention.

After hosting several successful in-person engagement sessions, the SCC is now inviting youth from across the municipality to share their experiences and ideas through an online survey. Youth and young adults aged 12 to 22 are encouraged to participate.

Input gathered will help inform the development of the strategy and ensure young people from diverse backgrounds and experiences can contribute.

For more information about the project and to access the survey, visit the Students Commission of Canada website.

COMMUNITY SURVEY ON POLICING AND POLICY FEEDBACK OPPORTUNITIES

The Halifax Board of Police Commissioners (BoPC) is seeking public feedback through its ongoing Community Survey on Policing.

Residents aged 18 and older are invited to complete the survey, which gathers feedback on experiences with policing and public safety priorities in the Halifax region. The survey is part of a series of consultations conducted by Narrative Research. Results from the current survey will be combined with findings from previous survey rounds and included in a final report to the BoPC in the fall of 2026.

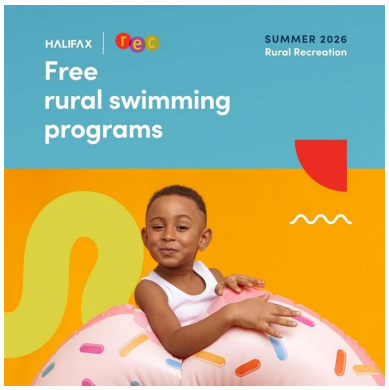
The information will help inform future policing priorities, performance measures and the strategic policing plan currently under development. The survey is open until 11:59 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 20 on our website.

In addition, the board is seeking public feedback on two draft policies: Body-Worn Cameras and

Community Engagement and Outreach. Residents can submit comments on the proposed policies until 11:59 p.m. on Thursday, July 30.

More information, including links to the current survey, past survey results and draft policies, is available on the Board of Police Commissioners website.

FREE RURAL BEACH AND LAKE SWIM LESSONS

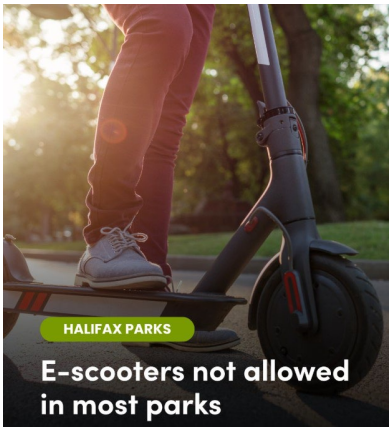


The Halifax Regional Municipality is continuing its free rural swim programs for children, youth and adults at supervised municipal beaches and lakes this summer. The lessons will be offered at Dollar Lake Provincial Park, Malay Falls Beach Park/Taylor Head Beach, Webbers Beach/Clam Harbour Beach, Rainbow Haven Beach and Queensland Beach.

The programs include an introductory learn-to-swim model and a lifesaving program including Bronze Cross and Intermediate Workplace First Aid.

All lessons are free and ages for each program differ. For more information, including program schedules and registration, visit our website.

E-SCOOTER PARK RESTRICTIONS



To keep our parks safe for everyone, residents are reminded that e-scooters are not permitted in municipal parks except on select trails. Permitted trails are specifically allowed as part of the municipality's micromobility program. Riding anywhere else in a park could result in fines or your e-scooter being impounded.

Permitted trails include:

- Mainland Linear Trail
- Chain of Lakes Trail
- Halifax Common pathways
- McIntosh Run Trail
- Lake Banook Active Transportation Trail (Star Park to Brookdale Crescent)
- Dartmouth Waterfront Active Transportation Trail (between Alderney and Woodside ferry terminals)
- Portland Lakes Trail (from Baker Drive and Freshwater Trail to Waterside Terrace)

HALIFACT SUMMER COMMUNITY UPDATE NOW ONLINE

The Summer 2026 HalifACT Community Update is now available online, highlighting

progress, impact reporting and stories from across the municipality's climate action initiatives.

HalifACT: Acting on Climate Together is the Halifax Regional Municipality's long-term climate action plan, focused on reducing greenhouse gas emissions, protecting the natural environment and helping communities adapt to a changing climate. Through HalifACT, the municipality is integrating climate considerations into planning, expanding active transportation options, electrifying municipal fleets, protecting green spaces and building community resilience.

Highlights from the Summer 2026 update include:

- Installation of shade sails and bioswales to help communities adapt to extreme heat and manage stormwater;
- Launch of the HalifACT Home Energy Upgrade program; and
- Recognition of youth leaders making a difference through climate action.

Read the Summer 2026 HalifACT Community Update on our website and learn more about how the municipality is working toward a healthier, more sustainable and climate-resilient future.

HRP POLICE SCIENCE PROGRAM GRADUTATION

Congratulations to the 37 new officers who graduated from the 2026 Police Science Program in a ceremony at Pier 21 on July 16.

This graduating class – the largest in HRP's history – reflects the diversity of the community its members will now serve.

The Police Science Program is a 38-week training program offered through the Halifax Regional Police Training School in Dartmouth. The next class is scheduled to begin this fall.

To learn more about the Police Science Program, visit the HRP Cadet Recruitment page.

REC VAN SUMMER TOUR

The Rec Van is back this summer, visiting rural communities with so many fun ways to play!

Now in motion, the Rec Van will travel to different rural communities from Mondays to Thursdays every week until Aug. 24.

A range of recreation activities will be offered, including basketball, soccer, washer toss, giant checkers, archery, skipping, giant cup stacking and more. Rec Van services are free for residents and open to all ages.

To find out when the van will be in your community, check out our calendar for the latest weekday schedule updates and weather cancellations on halifax.ca/RecVan.

IN THE COMMUNITY

2026 JCANS Festival

2026 Emancipation Day at Province House Flag Raising

COUNCILLOR JOHN YOUNG

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

If you have questions or need assistance, please contact 311 by phone, email (contactus@311.halifax.ca) or online at halifax.ca/home/311. I can also be reached at any time using the contact information provided.

INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE

Words to Live By When Seeking Clarity

“If you want to know the end,

look at the beginning”

African Proverb