

Councillor Matt Whitman

District 13

Hammonds Plains - St. Margarets



Dear Residents,

I am incredibly honoured to have earned the privilege to represent you as your Municipal Councillor for District 13 – Hammonds Plains – St. Margarets.

I am a life-long resident of HRM, an active community advocate and volunteer. I graduated from St. Mary's University and have spent twenty years in Finance and Information Technology.

Along with Regional Council and North West Community Council, I currently serve on the Executive Standing Committee, the Appeals Standing Committee, the Grants Committee, the Halifax Regional Library Board and the St. Margarets Bay Coastal Planning Advisory Committee.

I will work diligently as your representative on Regional Council. I am working on projects important to our district, such as continuing improvements for the Hammonds Plains Road, improving transportation and transit, and all other issues related to municipal services, while ensuring accountability to you, the taxpayer. As your representative, I look forward to working with you. Please contact me at any time.

Yours in Service,

HOW TO CONTACT ME

My Office is here to serve you



Councillors' Support Office
Halifax Regional Municipality
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Fax: 490-4122
Email: matt.whitman@halifax.ca
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My Assistant:
Melody Campbell
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This is my first newsletter since the October election. At this time I would like to take the opportunity to say "Thank You" for your continued support.

HRM Citizen Contact Centre – 3-1-1



You can reach the HRM Citizen Contact Centre by calling 3-1-1. By contacting 3-1-1, you can report an issue and access a wide variety of municipal services and information through the Contact Centre. The Citizen Contact Centre hours are 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m., seven days a week except New Year's Day and Christmas Day.



2013 HRM Volunteer Awards

HRM recently held the 2013 Volunteer Awards Ceremony which recognizes the extraordinary contributions of individuals and groups who volunteer their time and skills to provide services and programs in HRM communities. Congratulations to John Richard and Samantha MacGillivray from District 13 for being recognized at this year's award ceremony. If you would like more information on volunteering in HRM, please visit www.halifax.ca/volunteerservices.



John Richard



Samantha MacGillivray's father, Robert,
accepting the award on Samantha's behalf

2013 Citizenship Awards

On June 18th, the 2013 Citizenship awards were presented at City Hall to students who exemplify dedication and commitment to improving the quality of life in our schools and in our communities. I extend my sincere congratulations to all 2013 Citizenship Award recipients, including Hilary Anya Friesen, Sacred Heart School of Halifax, Gavin McGuinness, Madeline Symonds Middle School, Lauren Soulsby, Five Bridges Junior High School, Taline Selman, Ecole Secondaire du Sommet, and Zoe Abraham from Bedford Academy, all from District 13.

Project Updates in District 13

- HRM Parkland Planning staff have started design work for the construction of a new ball field on Lakeshore Drive in Kingswood. Work is to proceed this summer.
- Parkland Planning staff are considering a redesign of Uplands Park in preparation for the replacement of the existing playground.
- Traffic lights have been installed at Hammonds Plains Road and Glen Arbour Way.

Design and Construction Updates

Now that the warm weather has arrived, road construction season has started. Over the summer months, you will notice a number of projects taking place in the District. Projects initiated by HRM for District 13 include:

- Hammonds Plains Road – Flat Lake to Rockcliffe – Road Widening
- Pockwock Road – Hammonds Plains to White Hills – Microsurfacing
- Pockwock Road – White Hills Run to Old Annapolis – Planer Patching

Margeson Drive Extension

HRM's Road Network Plan includes the extension of Margeson Drive southward from the new interchange that was created on Highway 101. Ultimately, this will help provide better connectivity to the regional network for residents in Glen Arbour and White Hills and reduce traffic loading on Hammonds Plains Road. The plan is available at: www.halifax.ca/traffic/documents/MargesonDrive-PROJECTPLAN1.4.pdf

Genivar Consultants have been hired to design the next phase of the roadway extension across the Sackville River. A public open house session will be held this coming September. I encourage you to watch for notices and attend this meeting to learn more about the project and show your support.

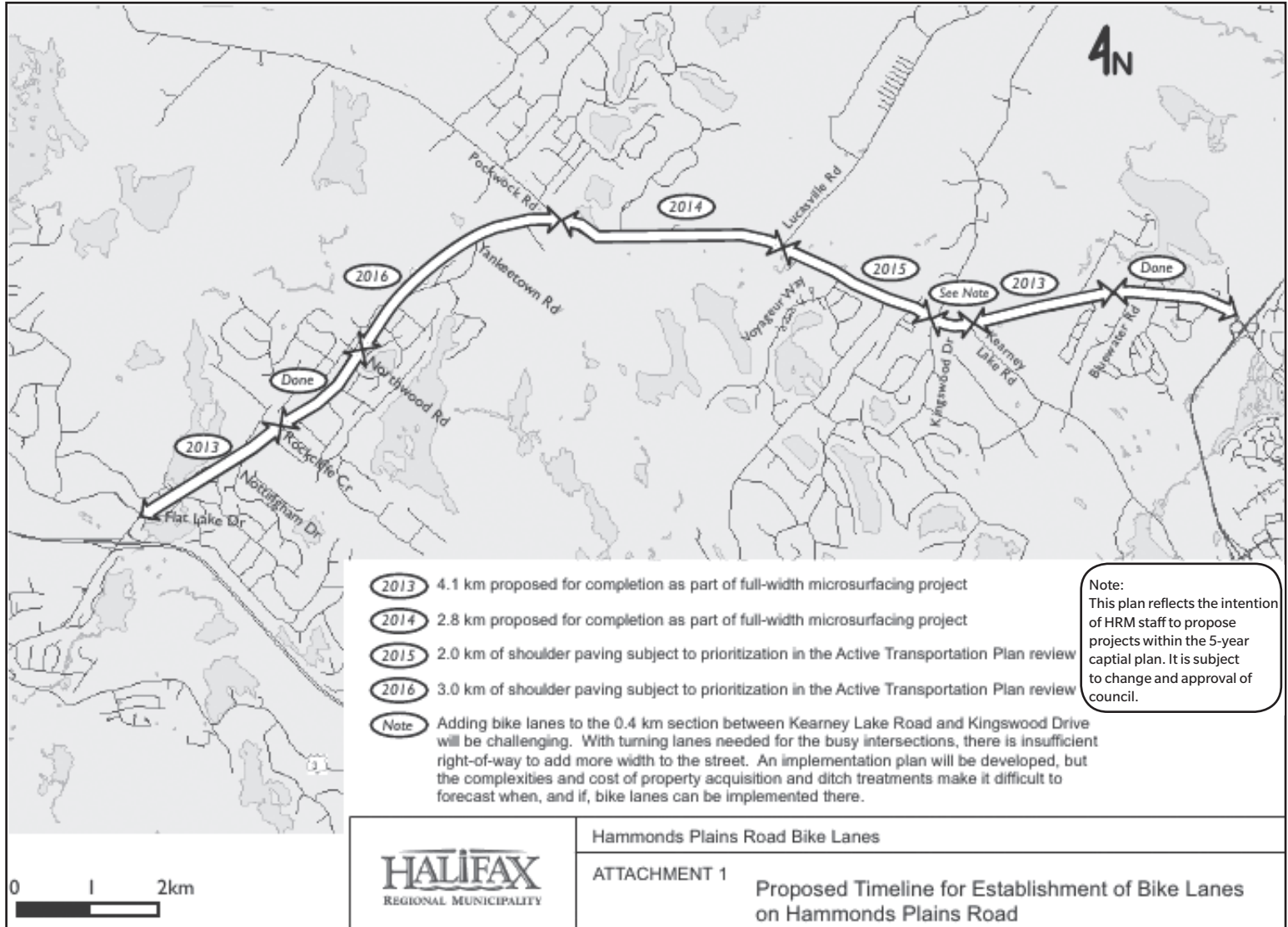
Citizen's Guide to Municipal Services

The Citizen's Guide to Municipal Services is available online! For information relating to Municipal Services we offer you can visit our HRM website www.halifax.ca/CitizenGuide/index.html



Cycling in HRM - Hammonds Plains Road Bike Facilities

As part of ongoing capital improvements to Hammonds Plains Road, plans are in place to widen the paved shoulder to add more space for cycling and walking.



District 13 News and Updates

In future, I will be utilizing my web site, email and online newsletters to provide information on events and news important to the residents of District 13. I look forward to serving our community in this capacity. Please check my webpage at www.halifax.ca/districts/dist13 for HRM news that affects you and our community. If you would like to receive updates by email, contact my assistant, Melody Campbell by email at melody.campbell@halifax.ca. Please put 'District 13 Electronic Updates' in the subject line. E-mail addresses will not be shared.



Congratulations to our SLAM Basketball Boys and Girls on another fantastic 2013 Season!

Unwanted Flyer Delivery

I have been receiving many calls from residents in District 13 regarding unwanted flyer delivery. To stop delivery of unwanted flyers, you can contact the Herald at 426-3350 and Transcontinental 421-5802. If you would like to have a sign for your property to indicate you do not want flyer delivery, please contact me at matt.whitman@halifax.ca

COUNCILLOR WHITMAN IN THE COMMUNITY!



Mayor Savage, Councillors, HRM staff and area residents took to the streets on May 13th to promote Bike Week. We had a fun, casual bike ride from Victoria Park to the Grand Parade.



Easter Sunrise Service at Peggy's Cove



I had a great opportunity to be a part of Men of the Deep Pockets raising funds for the A Different Stage of Mind event. We had the privilege of singing with the late Rita MacNeil at the fundraiser for the Mental Foundation of Nova Scotia.



Acadian Fish & Chips and Edible Matters receiving certificates of recognition.



My daughter, Morgan, and I at the Regional Council Swearing In Ceremony on November 6, 2012.



My family, my wife Cathy, my son Kirk and daughter Morgan.



Due to Canada Post distribution areas, some residences which are not in District 13 may receive this newsletter. I apologize for any confusion this may cause and hope you still find the information useful.

Tweets & Quotes

A good leader has the courage to make tough decisions, the confidence to stand alone and the compassion to listen to the needs of others. *Nicky Gumbel*

We have the power to stop bullying. It's not expensive, it's not a secret, it's not a drug. It's called kindness. Encourage it by example. *Joan Helson*

Keep your face always toward the sunshine - and shadows will fall behind you. *Walt Whitman*