



District 15 Newsletter
Councillor Steve Craig
Lower Sackville



DEAR RESIDENTS

Spring is such a busy time of year. There is much going on in Sackville and in the municipality worth mentioning or drawing your attention to.

New developments, infrastructure improvements, community celebrations, and various municipal initiatives will be touched on in this newsletter. I also communicate through social media via Facebook, twitter, LinkedIn, and an electronic newsletter to update you on current events and information. I encourage you to follow me for these updates.

METROPOLITAN AVENUE STORMWATER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

This project is expected to provide relief to residents on Riverside Drive, Nordic Crescent, and Lennox Drive area who are experiencing localized flooding during significant rain events.

Based on the identified system deficiencies, Halifax Water proposes to upgrade the existing storm system across the Metropolitan Avenue sports field, resulting in a diversion of about one third of the drainage area by a direct route to First Lake. The remaining stormwater will continue to utilize the existing collection system, and discharge to First Lake via Glendale Avenue and Metropolitan Avenue. Construction is expected to be completed in 2014.

SOLID WASTE CHANGES AT THE CURB

Regional Council has proposed changes to the solid waste bylaw that could include the introduction of clear bags (with option to use one 'black privacy bag'), reduction in garbage bag collection from 6 to 4 bags, recycling of boxboard (cereal boxes) with paper, collection of leaf and yard waste in craft paper bags only (no longer in green carts), and removal of grass clippings from curbside pick-up. These proposed changes, if approved by Council, will come into effect after a broad educational program, and in some cases after a public hearing has been held. For more information, visit www.halifax.ca/wrms and click on By-Law Revisions.



FIRST LAKE DRIVE STORMWATER IMPROVEMENTS

Stormwater infrastructure improvements are expected to take place before the end of the 2014 construction season.

The updated infrastructure will alleviate the stormwater flows that cross First Lake Drive during rain events that have caused property damage in the 300 block area.

SACKVILLE CROSS ROAD STORMWATER SYSTEM RENEWAL

Halifax Water faces a significant wastewater and stormwater infrastructure deficit with many components of the system requiring upgrades or replacement.

The stormwater system between Sackville Drive and Seawood Avenue is an example of infrastructure that is reaching the end of its expected service life. Following an evaluation of this infrastructure, Halifax Water Staff found that a section approximately 350 meters in length will require replacement. As a result of this assessment, funding in the 2014/15 Capital Budget was allocated for the design phase of this project. The design should commence in the near future, with construction planned to follow in the 2015/2016 season.

OPEN HOUSE

Please join me as I host an open house with the residents of Lower Sackville.

I encourage anyone with municipal concerns/questions to contact me at any time; however this is a good opportunity to speak to me directly. Any feedback or suggestions will be welcome. I hope to see you there.

Date: May 28th Time: 6:30 -8:30 p.m.
Where: Fenerty Room – Sackville Public Library,
636 Sackville Drive

PEDESTRIAN SAFETY UPDATES

On Tuesday, March 18th, the Pedestrian Safety Action plan was approved by Council.

One of the highlights of having a Pedestrian Safety Action Plan is that it will be the primary document for reporting, evaluating and directing HRM’s pedestrian safety programs. It will be updated annually and is to provide on-going monitoring and assessment of the issues that arise where pedestrians and vehicles interact.

Another stride made towards this initiative was on February 25th when Regional Council approved how HRM will mark some of its crosswalks. The plan is to re-paint them with bold stripes in an effort to improve safety and visibility in what is referred to as “zebra crosswalk markings” at all uncontrolled, (crosswalks without lights) marked crosswalks, and budget accordingly for the upcoming crosswalk painting season.

KINSMEN SPLASH PAD UPDATE

The Kinsmen splash pad is well underway, with an expected completion date for the beginning of June. The splash pad will provide an area for water play that has no standing water (pool), and will be situated next to the playground area at Kinsmen Park.



Sackville’s Volunteer of the Year was presented to Bob Rines for his outstanding contribution over many years. Congratulations Bob.



STREET AND SIDEWALK CAPITAL PROJECTS FOR LOWER SACKVILLE

The following projects are approved for the 2014-15 construction season.

Bridges	Old Sackville Rd (Hwy 101) (Upgrades, maintenance)	From	To
Bridges	Sackville Drive/Little Sackville River Bridge (Upgrades, maintenance)		
Micro surfacing	Cobequid Rd.	Civic 764	Windsor Junction
New sidewalk	Riverside Dr.	Glendale Ave.	Maple Grove Ave.
New sidewalk	Zinck Ave.	Cobequid Rd.	Dickey Dr.
Street Recap	Riverside Dr.	Glendale Ave.	Civic 1530
Street Recap	Sampson Dr.	Stokil Dr.	Stokil Dr.
Street Recap	Tamarack Cir.	Aspen Cres.	Loops Itself

DISTRICT FUNDING

Each Councillor is permitted to approve funds of up to \$4312.50 per budget year designated as District Activity Funds, and \$94,000 each year in District Capital Funds for use in the District.

Funding is available for not-for-profit groups only, and applications for funding must meet policy guidelines. For more information or if your group would like to apply for funding through either of these funds, please email me. The donations made through these funds are public information. Please email Nadine Yuriev at yuriev@halifax.ca if you have any inquiries.

PATRIOT DAYS



Sackville Patriot Days is a community, family-oriented celebration organized around

Canada Day. Please join us as we celebrate Sackville.

For more information, schedule, and events, please visit the Sackville Patriot Days website at: www.patriotdays.ca

LOWER SACKVILLE COMMUNITY GARDEN

Through the hard work of interested residents, I am pleased to say that we will now have a community garden in Lower Sackville. Community gardens provide many benefits for residents. They offer opportunities to interact with other neighbours, add beauty to your neighbourhood, encourage environmental sustainability and promote active living. Community gardening is also an opportunity to share and learn with others about the environment around you. For more information on the community garden coming to our area, please call Peter Wood at 864 3022.

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENTS FOR LOWER SACKVILLE

In addition to developments already underway in our community, there are development proposals for Sackville Drive, Walker Service Road, Walker Avenue and Old Sackville Road. During the early stages of new developments, residents can get details on what they are, which can include the development process, and even site plans.

For developments happening in our area, like Cases # 19041, 19060, and 19056, please visit the HRM Planning website at: www.halifax.ca/planning/Applications



District 15 Newsletter Councillor Steve Craig

HRSB BOUNDARY CHANGE IMPACTS

There is now a group working together to address the issues raised by parents and School Board staff regarding the changes to student pedestrian safety as a result of the school closures in Lower Sackville. Staff from HRM, Halifax Regional School Board, and Conseil scolaire acadien provincial have met, and several issues were noted. HRM Staff has provided an update on the action that will be taken on the following issues in the coming months:

- School crossing guards – Police requires time to assess. In order to properly conduct the assessment, the schools have to be operational. Assessment/survey therefore, will occur in September 2014.
- Requests for new sidewalks – Ratings are being prepared for all requested. Once all ratings are received, we will advise and determine where each location is on the priority list.
- Traffic light at Stokil Drive and Beaver Bank Road (there is a concern that the lights currently do not provide enough time to safely cross the street). - Staff plan to assess the crossing time at this location.
- Traffic volume on Metropolitan Avenue near Leslie Thomas Junior High - Rating for new sidewalk on Metropolitan is being reviewed by staff. Traffic and ROW will be confirming traffic volumes.
- Students living at the end of Stokil Drive travelling to Smokey Drive Elementary School do not have access to a sidewalk.
- Rating for continuation of new sidewalk is being reviewed by staff.
- Request for stop sign at corner of Nictaux Drive and Metropolitan Avenue - Staff is reviewing this request along with volumes of traffic.
- In general terms, new travel patterns will be reviewed. However, similar to Police, our assessment cannot be appropriately conducted until the schools are operational.

I will continue to work with all parties to ensure all issues are examined and assessed by the appropriate staff.

HOW CAN WE HELP?

My Office is here to serve you

CALL CENTRE

We Can Help!
3-1-1
HRM SERVICES

Call 311 toll-free from anywhere throughout HRM and our friendly and knowledgeable agents can provide you with a wide variety of municipal information and services in over 150 languages using a telephone interpretation service. Hours of operation: 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily Closed on Christmas Day and New Year's Day

CALL MY OFFICE



For assistance with municipal issues, please contact my Constituency Coordinator, Nadine Yuriev by email at Nadine.Yuriev@halifax.ca or by calling 490-1577.

CONTACT ME:

- ☎ Cell: 902-240-0441
- ☎ Fax: 902-490-4122
- ✉ Email: Steve.Craig@halifax.ca

STAY CONNECTED STAY INFORMED

- 📘 Facebook: [steve craig for hrm council](#)
- 🌐 LinkedIn: [steve craig](#)
- 🐦 Twitter: [@stevecraig4hrm](#)

The information or opinions on these sites are not necessarily endorsed by the Halifax Regional Municipality

Please visit my HRM web page for up-to-date information on HRM related issues at halifax.ca/councillors/district15/profile.html

Police Non-Emergency 490-5020
Halifax Fire 490-5530
Mayor's Office 490-4010
Council Support Office 490-4050



Due to Canada Post distribution areas, some residences which are not in District 15 may receive this newsletter. I apologize for any confusion this may cause and hope you still find the information useful.