



7th Issue

# Councillor Tim Outhit

## District 21

Bedford

Halifax Regional Municipality

Summer 2012



### Dear Bedford Residents,

I hope you enjoyed our exceptionally beautiful Nova Scotian summer. My family and I took advantage of the good weather, enjoying Bedford Days, the Lions Pool and many walks throughout Bedford. This newsletter, my seventh, highlights the successes that Bedford and the Municipality have enjoyed recently.

For the past four years I have listened to your requests for additional facilities and infrastructure and beautification projects throughout our community and HRM has responded positively to your requests. From the new rinks, to the new multi-purpose community centre, upgrades to the Lions pool, traffic and public transportation planning, permanent washrooms in DeWolf Park through to painting, trimming, new flower baskets, banners, sidewalks and paving, you can see the improvements in our community.

I have also heard your concerns, and been an advocate on your behalf on issues such as the size of Council, tax reform (in particular for condominium owners and small business), and ensuring costs are streamlined and controlled, to name a few. This newsletter will highlight these key matters, and update you on a number of issues and projects affecting Bedford and HRM residents.

Once again I want to thank my council colleagues, HRM staff, my family, and Bedford residents for their tremendous support and cooperation.

As always, I encourage you to contact me with your questions, concerns, and ideas.

### New Community Centre & Multi-purpose Artificial Sports Fields Proceeding on Schedule and on Budget

Work is proceeding on schedule and on budget for our new multi-purpose and all-ages community centre, being built next to our new high school. The community centre/community school will have two gymnasiums as well as meeting rooms, crafts rooms, child care rooms, food preparation and serving area, multi-purpose rooms, and access to the community schools' "cafetorium" for performing arts and public meeting events.

An artificial turf sports field is being built next to the community centre and school, which will have washrooms with exterior access so they are accessible during non-school hours for field users. It is a regulation size field that can be used for football games, or for two simultaneous soccer games. The community centre, school, and field are on schedule to be open for September, 2013.



## HRM Volunteer Awards

Each year HRM recognizes volunteers who are nominated by community groups and organizations for their significant contributions to our community. Congratulations to Bedford Volunteer Award recipients Al Scott, Carmel Carrigan, Carmen Lee (Youth), Carol Loncarevic, Jean St-Amand, Marjorie & James Kirby and Robert (Bob) Short. HRM appreciates your commitment to improving our community.

### Bedford Volunteer Awards

I was pleased and honoured to participate again this year, in the annual Bedford Volunteer of the Year Awards. Awards were presented to nineteen residents (including two youths).

This year's award recipients were: Brian MacLellan (Bedford Air Cadet Squadron), Mary Boston (Bedford Baptist Church), Dawson Miller (Bedford Horticultural Society), Joanne Guilderson (Bedford Lawn Bowls), Joyce Heffler (Bedford Leisure Club), Gordon H. Savage (Bedford Lions Club), Sue Stewart (Bedford United Church), Isabel Wynn (Canadian Cancer Society), Bev Grace (Catholic Women's League), Sandy Tillman (Charles P. Allen High School), Joanne MacCallum (Charles P. Allen High School), Diana Haydon (Fort Sackville Foundation), Christina MacDougall (Girl Guides of Canada), Ken & Betty Smith (Kwébec Chapter No. 27 Order of Eastern Star), Bill Wilson (MS Society), Terry Yuill (Scouts Canada), Lawrence Baker (St. Ignatius Parish), Brenna MacMillan (Bedford United Church) and Sarah Kuehn (Girl Guides of Canada).

Bev Grace received the overall Bedford Volunteer of the Year Award and Sarah Kuehn received the Bedford Youth Volunteer of the Year Award. On behalf of Bedford residents, thank you and congratulations! I encourage residents to contact me or the Bedford Volunteer Awards Committee should you wish to nominate members of these groups, or from other groups not yet recognized, for next year's awards.

## HRM Citizenship Awards

On June 19, Regional Council hosted the 2012 HRM Citizenship Awards at City Hall. Grade 9 students were recognized for their dedication and commitment to improving life in both their school and community. Congratulations to Donica Larade, Ecole Secondaire du Sommett, Annika Benson, Bedford Junior High School and Katheryne Ladouceur, Bedford South School.



*Donica Larade*

*Annika Benson*

*Katheryne Ladouceur*

***Congratulations  
to all of the  
Award recipients!***



*My daughter Liz and I touring the new washroom and viewing the mural.*

## New Public Washroom in DeWolf Park Opens

The new public washroom in DeWolf Park opened in time for Bedford Days, and work on the historic scenes of Bedford mural is underway. The photos for the mural were provided by volunteers at the Fort Sackville Foundation, and they are being painted by artist Christian Toth.

## History in the Heart of Bedford

(Submitted by Marie Corkum on behalf of the Fort Sackville Foundation)

We have had another successful summer at the Scott Manor House. Many tourists and local residents stopped by taking in the free guided tours. This summer we hosted a week-long series of presentations and displays commemorating R.M.S. Titanic.

Scott Manor House will be hosting one more event this season. A Candle-Light Grave Yard Walk will be taking place on Monday, September 24th at 7:30 p.m at Scott Manor House, 15 Fort Sackville Road. Refreshments will be served.

Additional information can be found by visiting the website, [www.scottmanorhouse.ca](http://www.scottmanorhouse.ca), or by calling 832-2336.

## Bedford & Mainland North Corridor Traffic Study Approved and Commuter Rail Study Approved

The saying used to be “if we build it, they will come”, but I say “if we build it, how will they get to and from?” With the addition of the new 4pad and the multi-purpose centre, Bedford has facilities we can be proud of. I continue to focus on traffic and public transportation solutions for our community.

I am very pleased to report that the 2012/13 HRM Budget included funding for a traffic and water services study and plan for old Bedford, and Rockingham. Also approved and funded was an independent and professional investigation into commuter rail, which will be conducted in cooperation with CN and VIA Rail.

The need for planning and improved infrastructure, prior to more “infill” growth in older areas of Bedford, was unanimously supported by Regional Council and North West Community Council. I believe that we must learn from past successes and failures, when it comes to addressing growth and development in our community.

Bedford West and much of Bedford South were well-planned. Many areas were not permitted to be occupied until new infrastructure was planned, funded, and built. This included new infrastructure such as the widening of the Hammonds Plains Rd. and the building of the new Larry Uteck Interchange. These projects received significant funding from the developers and we used this growth to leverage several new recreation and sports facilities for our community.

## Improving Safety in Our Community

One of my focus areas over the past four years has been trying to improve safety in our community by improving lighting, paths, drainage, signage, policing, sidewalks, etc.

I am pleased to note that Douglas Dr. will finally receive a sidewalk to protect walkers, and, in particular, kids walking to Basinview School. I worked with parents, HRM Traffic Services, and HRP to get a crosswalk and crossing guard approved for Southgate Dr. and on Eaglewood Dr. The construction of the pedestrian bridge by Moirs Pond is now underway, and significant improvements were made to a number of walking paths (i.e., Moirs Mill and Shore Dr. to Waterfront Dr.). I am working with HRM and Halifax Water staff to improve drainage issues in Oakmount, on Union St., and on Meadowbrook Dr.

## Paving & Re-Surfacing Projects in Bedford

I am pleased to report that a significant number of paving and re-surfacing projects will be undertaken in Bedford this summer and fall. These projects include:

Douglas Dr.  
Hammonds Plains Rd. between Doyle and Brookshire  
A turning lane into Peerless Subdivision  
A portion of Rocky Lake Dr.  
The Bedford Hwy at Hammonds Plains Rd.  
The Bedford Highway between approximately Clearwater Seafood and Larry Uteck Blvd\*

*\*This section of the Bedford Hwy is not within District 21 (Bedford), but I have worked closely with Councillor Debbie Hum and HRM staff to address your concerns. This area was not repaved sooner, as it was expected that Halifax Water was going to contract significant upgrade and expansion work in this area.*

## Giles Road Residents Receive Water Service

Residents of Giles Road received water service from Halifax Water! You may recall that I have been working on this project for several years, after the residents received a loss in the quality and quantity of their well water, subsequent to blasting for the RIM building. I wish to thank my council colleagues, HRM staff, Halifax Water staff, the developers, and the residents for their tremendous support for this project.

## Bedford Days and Canada Day

I want to thank and congratulate the 2012 Bedford Days Planning Committee (Leanne Strathdee, Donna Lugar, Barb Hooper, Tom Servaes and Ceighlyn Dawe), HRM staff, local musicians and businesses, and the many sponsors who made this year's Bedford Days and Canada Day a huge success! I have heard from many residents how much they enjoyed the regular Bedford Days events and the large Canada Day fireworks display! I am pleased to report that the new Bedford Days events, the Rouge & Blanc (music and flavours of Bedford), CPA Coffee House and the Ice Cream Social, were also a hit and will be offered again next year.

Thank you also to those who participated in my fourth Annual Councillor's Community Clean-up!

**Please let me know if you have ideas on how to improve Bedford Days and Canada Day in Bedford.**

## Public & Private Improvements along the Bedford Hwy (our main street)



*Due to popular feedback on the banners, and calls for some flower baskets, I arranged for and funded from District 21 capital funds some hanging flower baskets and additional banners to be installed along our main street.*



*The green wooden fences have been repainted between Union St. and Moirs Mill.*



*Numerous concrete sidewalk repairs are underway on the Bedford Hwy and Hammonds Plains Rd. Some concrete curb and gutter repairs will begin in Ridgevale, in Oakmount, and on Duffus Dr.*



*Several new private business repairs and construction projects are also underway and are having a huge, positive impact.*

## Paper Mill Lake Dam Undergoes Major Repairs

Construction on the Paper Mill Lake Dam is underway and will continue until the fall. Annapolis Group Incorporated, owner of the dam, will be conducting major repairs to the existing structure and backfill within the park area below the dam. The company's crew will be on site during normal working hours through to October 31, 2012.

Heavy equipment will be used for the demolition, concrete forming and major excavation of down slope fills. This work will take place within the confines of a closed compound in close proximity to the dam. Water levels at Paper Mill Lake will be lowered extensively for the duration of the project to accommodate this work. Walkway access between Mill Run Crescent and Lake Drive via the Mill Run footbridge will be closed during this time.

Any activities within the lake or disturbance to the lake bed or shoreline are regulated by Nova Scotia Department of Environment through an approval process. Any property owners intending to conduct alterations to the shoreline of Paper Mill Lake should contact Nova Scotia Environment to discuss approval requirements.

While this necessary work takes place, HRM is taking the opportunity to improve access to Paper Mill Lake. The improvements involve the replacement of all wood structures, including steps to the lake, and construction of a concrete retaining wall complete with new concrete steps. Swimming access will be closed to the public during this planned work, however, program opportunities will be offered at Sandy Lake Beach and the Bedford Lions Pool. For your safety, please respect any barrier fences, posted signage or notices.

## Contact Information

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### HRM Call Centre 490-4000

The HRM Call Centre is open 7 days a week 7:00 am to 11:00 pm except holidays, and is your fastest way to access information on a wide variety of municipal services and information.

## FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions)

**Q** Did you support paying the \$360K debt to Trade Centre Ltd, as a result of the concert audit?

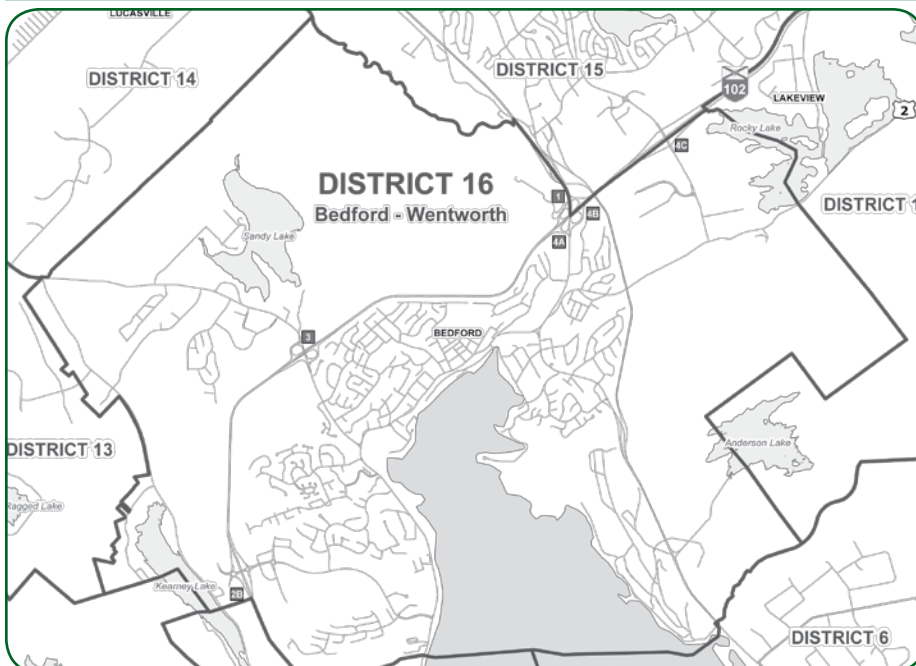
**A** No. I was the only Councillor that voted against paying this expense based on the feedback I received from many residents.

**Q** The ice time shortages and commutes to arenas were resolved by the building of the BMO 4Pad arena. What is being done about the needs of other sports and types of recreation in Bedford?

**A** Our new community centre is under construction and will open in September 2013. It will house two gymnasiums, meeting facilities, and include an artificial turf playing field.

**Q** What is going on with the infill area on the Bedford waterfront?

**A** This area continues to be in-filled under the direction of the Waterfront Development Corporation, a provincial crown corporation. The infilling was approved by the Nova Scotia Department of the Environment and the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans over a decade ago, and is not directly under Council's control. However, I continue to work in consultation with MLA Kelly Regan and MP Geoff Regan and community groups to investigate your concerns regarding the approval of the infilling and the process and science that led to the infilling approval, and questions over continuing infilling. No construction on the already in-filled land will take place until the Bedford and Mainland Corridor North Traffic plan and funding report (on how to improve transportation and public transportation in our community) is completed and approved. We must plan and fund infrastructure prior to allowing further growth in old Bedford. I have worked closely with the two landowners to address and resolve your concerns regarding height, density, traffic, the need for more green space, a public transportation terminal, a possible library or iconic performance arts facility, and the vision of a marine park or aquarium. I am receiving tremendous cooperation and significant progress is being made on your behalf.



## District Boundary Changes

A decision by the Nova Scotia Utility & Review Board (UARB) mandated a reduction of seven electoral districts in HRM. This has resulted in a change in the boundaries of District 21 Bedford.

The new polling District 16, Bedford - Wentworth, will include the community of Bedford as well as the growing areas of Wentworth and Royal Hemlocks and a portion of Halifax adjacent to Shaunslieve Drive.

The new boundaries will come into effect following the municipal election this October. For more information on HRM's boundary changes visit [www.halifax.ca/BoundaryReview](http://www.halifax.ca/BoundaryReview)



### Delivery Note

Due to the delivery routes followed by Canada Post, it is possible that some of these Newsletters may appear in other Districts. Please accept my apology for any confusion.