

What's Happening with Our Roads?

As you will have noticed, this has been a busy season for road construction throughout HRM. With approximately five weeks left in this construction season, the following projects in District 3, according to our Capital Works List website, are either in progress, about to get underway, or nearing completion: Caldwell Road – MacDonald's Beach to Hines Road – paving renewal; Cow Bay Road – Seahawk to Causeway – planer patching; Cow Bay Road culvert replacement; Dorothea Drive – Spring to Lucien – thin overlay; Eisener Boulevard – Portland Street to Norm Newman – micro-surfacing; Eisener Boulevard – walkway /crosswalk – new sidewalk; Eisener Boulevard – Norm Newman bus stop – new sidewalk; Hines Road – Caldwell – paving renewal of existing bike lanes; Hines Road to Main – micro-surfacing; Main Road – Hines to Norah – planer patching; Portland Estates Boulevard – Portland Estates to Wedgewood – paving resurfacing; Portland Street – Caldwell – micro-surfacing; Russell Lake Drive – Eisener to Georgian – planer patching 2; Shore Road – Caldwell to Sandpiper – planer patching 1.

Some of you may have experienced more inconvenience than others in regard to the scope of the road work being done throughout the various areas of our district and for that reason I wish to express my thanks to you all for your patience and understanding. The result will be an improved and safer infrastructure network.

Moving Forward Together - The Metro Transit Five Year Plan

The Metro Transit Five Year Service Plan included six public engagement sessions held on September 9th, 11th and 12th throughout HRM. If you were unavailable to attend one of the sessions, I encourage you to provide feedback by completing the online survey (www.halifax.ca) or by emailing a written submission to movingforward@halifax.ca. This is your opportunity to help plan the future of transit service in HRM.

Schools: Whom Do I Contact?

Part of my duty as a municipal Councillor is to assist residents in finding answers to various issues that may arise. This can be challenging at times for issues that may be outside my jurisdiction as a municipal official. One such area would be in regard to education and local schools for which most issues would fall under provincial jurisdiction. The way in which I may assist you is to provide the following information on

whom you may contact if you have questions about your local schools. Please contact the Halifax Regional School Board, your elected School Board Representative or your provincial elected official, the Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA).

Questions you may have in regard to what school district you reside in, school bus routes or bus stops should be directed to the Halifax Regional School Board or School Board Representative. You may reach the Halifax Regional School Board at 464-2000 or by visiting their website at: <http://www.hrsb.ns.ca/> The School Board Representative for your area is: Ms. Nancy Jakeman, District 2, Cole Harbour - Dartmouth East, Phone: 902-717-0777, Email: njakeman@hrsbc.ca

Fall Maintenance – Leaf Clean-Up Program

Autumn is such a beautiful time of year when we can all enjoy the colourful foliage of our vast variety and number of trees throughout HRM. Although beautiful, unfortunately those leaves do not remain on the trees which leads to the question of what to do with those falling leaves.

According to our website, leaf removal from municipal streets will be a one-time only service, on a street-by-street basis, in the heavily treed areas of the former City of Halifax, and as required in the other areas of the Urban Core Boundary of HRM. Residents are asked to place excess leaves in their organics green cart, clear or orange plastic bags or heavy paper bags.

Bags of leaves should be placed beside your green cart for collection. Using the proper leaf collection bag helps haulers identify materials being collected and ensures the contents are transported to the correct processing facility. There is a 20 bag limit for curb side collection with a maximum weight limit of 25 kg (55 lb) per bag.

Please watch for “tar spot”, a black mould spot on leaves, as a number of trees in HRM have been affected. Do not mulch, mow or place black spotted leaves around shrubs as the fungus will remain on your property. All leaves that are black spotted are to go in the green cart, clear or orange plastic bags or a large paper bag for collection.

In accordance with HRM Streets By-Law S-300, Section 43, residents shall not sweep or deposit leaves in the gutter or roadway. The potential for street flooding is greatly increased when catch basins are clogged with leaves.

If you have any questions, please call 311. A complete Householders Guide for Waste Management is included in the annual HRM Citizen Calendar and on the HRM website at www.halifax.ca.

Fall is also a great time to take care of lawn maintenance. September is a good month to fertilize. During the months of October and November, add lime and compost. The compost acts as a natural fertilizer and will keep your soil healthy. Grass seed may be added anytime during the fall when a thinning or bare spot appears.

Community Beautification meets Public Art

You may have noticed a piece of artwork in progress at Quigley Corner. I want to thank artist Laurie Mireau for the work she is creating on the traffic box at this location. The art is to reflect the surrounding community of Fisherman's Cove and is an ocean scene complete with ocean bottom and varieties of fish and plant life found underwater. This lovely creation will certainly add beauty to the area and reflect the ocean-side region of which we are all so pleased to call home.

E-Newsletter

A District 3 electronic newsletter is in the works, so if you would like to receive it, please send an email to Chris.Newson@halifax.ca with Newsletter in the subject line. Your email address will not be shared with anyone for any purpose.

Contact Me

As always, I am available to address your concerns. My phone numbers are 490-7032 or 476-1855, and my email is bill.karsten@halifax.ca . I will always respond as quickly as possible, but if you need to contact someone more immediately, please contact my Council Constituency Coordinator Chris Newson at 490-7184 or by email at: chris.newson@halifax.ca . Outside of regular business hours, please contact the HRM Call Centre at 3-1-1.