



## COUNCILLOR BILL KARSTEN

### DARTMOUTH SOUTH - EASTERN PASSAGE DISTRICT 3 NEWSLETTER

SERVING THE RESIDENTS OF PORTLAND ESTATES, PORTLAND HILLS, RUSSELL LAKE WEST, PORTIONS OF EAST WOODLAWN, EASTERN PASSAGE, COW BAY, SHEARWATER AND SOUTH WOODSIDE

## DEAR RESIDENTS



I extend best wishes to you and your family for a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! As we enter into the winter season all we can hope for is a milder and ice-free winter than the one we experienced last year! Our 2016- 2017 Budget process is well underway. I believe one of the most important responsibilities I have as your Councillor is to ensure a balanced approach to spending and revenue. Council's preliminary fiscal direction to staff is to proceed with a 0% target on the average tax bill for the upcoming year. The presentation can be found at the following link: [halifax.ca/council/agendasc/documents/151020cow3pres.pdf](http://halifax.ca/council/agendasc/documents/151020cow3pres.pdf)

We encourage you to be involved! On our home page at [halifax.ca](http://halifax.ca) you can work on the Budget Allocator to determine your spending priorities for the upcoming budget. Try it; it's fun!

It continues to be a real privilege to serve you, the residents of District 3 on Regional Council! Please do not hesitate to contact me if there is anything I can do to help.

Yours truly,

### BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

Councillor Karsten is a member of the following Halifax Regional Municipality Boards and Committees:

- Audit & Finance Standing Committee, Chair
- Environment & Sustainability Standing Committee
- Executive Standing Committee and CAO Review Sub-Committee

Councillor Karsten also serves on the following Boards/Committees:

- Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Board of Directors
- Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities (UNSM)

### 311 HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY Citizen Contact Centre

311 is more than a telephone number; it is your direct connection to municipal services and information. It is important to utilize the 311 service whenever you have a question regarding municipal services as 311 is also a tracking system for ensuring requests are assigned to appropriate staff for follow-up/action.



**HALIFAX**



## Councillor Bill Karsten

Home: 902.490.7032 Cell: 902.476.1855 City Hall 902.490.4050 Fax: 902.490.4122  
bill.karsten@halifax.ca halifax.ca/District03/index.php

### EXCITING NEWS FOR BAKER DRIVE

The long awaited news that you have been patiently waiting for is finally here! After many meetings, and reviews the Baker Drive crosswalk at Freshwater Trail intersection has been approved by traffic staff! Staff will now begin to plan for the installation of a marked crosswalk at this location, complete with overhead crosswalk lights and flashing beacons. This project will be included in the 2016/17 capital budget for Council's approval.

### HALIFAX PUBLIC LIBRARY LOCAL BOOK DROP-OFF

Great News for Eastern Passage! The Woodlawn Library is doing a pilot project in the community to make it easier to return library materials. Since September 2015, residents of Eastern Passage have been able to return all library materials to the front desk of the Tallahassee Recreation Centre (TRC) at 168 Redoubt Way, as well as to any branch of Halifax Public Libraries.

Hours of operation for the TRC are:  
Monday-Friday 9am-9pm,  
Saturday 9am-3pm and Sunday 9am-5pm.

This project will run until March 2016 with the possibility of extension based on usage and demand. At the completion of the pilot project, the usage data gathered will determine whether the service will continue. For more information please call 902.490.2636.



*Councillor Bill Karsten chatting with local residents.*

### PUBLIC SKATING SCHEDULE

For information on public skate schedules, please visit the following website:

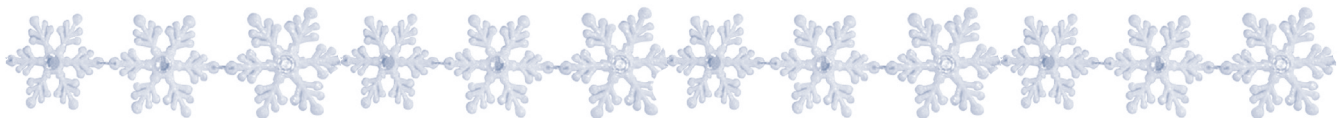
[www.halifax.ca/rec/PublicSkates.php](http://www.halifax.ca/rec/PublicSkates.php)

It is important to note that all skaters 12 years of age and under must wear a CSA approved helmet while participating in municipal public skating programs at the Bowles, Gray, LeBrun, and Devonshire arenas. Program skate monitors are also required to wear helmets and it is highly recommended all skaters, regardless of age, wear a CSA approved helmet.

Bicycle helmets do not provide the same protection as CSA approved helmets and will not be permitted on the ice.



*Councillor Bill Karsten attends Commemoration Ceremony*



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## LED STREETLIGHTS

To help make our communities safer and more energy efficient, the municipality has moved forward with a project to replace all traditional, high-pressure sodium streetlights in the Halifax region with energy efficient LED technology. LED streetlights produce a much brighter, whiter light that is focused on the ground, improving visibility and safety for all users. The new streetlights have been equipped with adaptive technology which monitors the streetlights in real-time and sends alerts when maintenance is required. This allows the municipality to better manage streetlight maintenance and eliminates the need for residents to report outages.



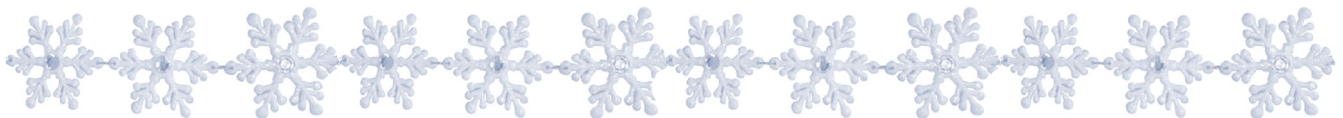
Unlike most conventional streetlights, LEDs contain no toxic materials and are 100% recyclable. Once the streetlights are replaced, the municipality is partnering with Dan-X Recycling in Dartmouth to properly dispose of the old bulbs, diverting that waste from the landfill and keeping harmful chemicals out of our environment.

The municipality is responsible for close to 43,000 streetlights across the region. About 7,000 of those have already been converted to LED technology. All the remaining streetlights will be converted over a two-year period wrapping up by June 1, 2017. Once complete, the conversion will save the municipality about \$5 million a year — savings that will fully fund the project and continue to accrue after all the debt is paid off.

If you have any questions or want to learn more about this exciting project, please visit our website at [halifax.ca/traffic/LED/index.php](http://halifax.ca/traffic/LED/index.php). While you're there, make sure to check out our online map to keep track of the completed areas and find out when we'll be visiting your neighbourhood.



*Councillor Bill Karsten with Mayor Mike Savage at Eastern Passage Cow Bay Summer Carnival*







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## RESPECT THE POSTED SPEED LIMITS

Over the last year I have received phone calls and emails from residents concerned with speeding on various streets/roads throughout our district. In response, I have discussed the concerns with our local enforcement agencies, RCMP and HRP, as well as our Traffic Analysts to review various locations to ensure safety for all. As part of District 3 is served by the RCMP (former county areas) and part by the HRP, I have obtained recent data from our RCMP and HRP in regard to speeding and how the issue has been addressed.

Recent statistics from the RCMP show that there has been an increase in checkpoints set up in our district over the last year; from 121 sites in 2013/14 to 156 sites in 2014/15. As a result, Speeding Summary Offense Tickets (SOT's) have decreased from 45 to 16 in that same timeframe. The most important thing to remember when dealing with speeding is that the issue must be reported immediately to the RCMP with as much detail as can be provided (type, colour of car/license plate #/location/time/date). RCMP will then dispatch the nearest officers to the area. Please call the RCMP Non-Emergency phone line at 1.800.803.7267 (RCMP) to report incidents involving speeding.

Recent statistics from the HRP show that over the last three years, keeping in mind 2015 is not a complete year, tickets issued due to speeding have increased from 68 to 104. As part of HRP's safe communities mandate, they utilize several strategies and initiatives such as the monthly traffic theme in which our Traffic Services Unit and Patrol resources focus on relevant traffic safety issues (Impaired Driving, Speeding, Inattentive Driving, Crosswalk Safety, Back to School). This coupled with our various partnerships, public education and responsiveness to public concerns assists in working towards a reduction in accidents and injuries.

Motorists are more distracted than ever before. It is imperative that we all do our part to ensure the safety of motorists, pedestrians and cyclists by obeying the posted speed limits and driving in a manner suitable for the weather and road conditions.



### CLIP AND SAVE CONTACT INFORMATION

<b>Municipal Contacts</b>		Halifax Regional Water Commission	902.490.4820
Municipal Citizen Contact Centre (Open 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. daily except for Christmas Day and New Year's Day) 311		Halifax Regional Water Commission Emergency	902.490.6940
Councillor Bill Karsten	902.490.7032 or 902.476.1855	Nova Scotia Power	1.877.428.6004
RCMP Non-Emergency	1.800.803.7267	<b>Provincial Representatives</b>	
Police Non-Emergency	902.490.5020	MLA Tony Ince, Cole Harbour – Portland Valley	902.406.3288
Fire Non-Emergency	902.490.5530	MLA Marian Mancini, Dartmouth South	902.424.4134 (Caucus Office)
<b>Miscellaneous Contacts</b>		MLA Joyce Treen, Cole Harbour – Eastern Passage	902.465.1888
Canada Post (Community Mailboxes)	1.866.607.6301	MLA Andrew Younger, Dartmouth East	902.406.4420
Office of the Provincial Ombudsman	902.424.6780	Federal Representatives	
Halifax Regional School Board (Administration)	902.464.2000	MP Darren Fisher, Dartmouth – Cole Harbour	Darren.Fisher@parl.gc.ca
School Board Representative – Nancy Jakeman	902.717.0777 Email: njakeman@hrsb.ca	MP Darrell Samson, Sackville – Eastern Shore	Darrell.Samson@parl.gc.ca

