

Engaging Cole Harbour – Westphal
By Councillor Lorelei Nicoll

Spring has finally arrived and clean up time has begun. HRM work crews have started clean up and repairs of the damage winter left behind. If you see any area that requires attention, such as potholes, grass sod upheaval, excess gravel deposits created by snow clearing over the winter, please call the HRM Call Centre at 311. Staff will be available from 7 am to 11 pm seven days a week except Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

HRM is proposing improvements to the intersection of Portland St/Cole Harbour Rd at Caldwell Rd/Dorothea Dr and Caldwell Rd at Hampton Green. The work will include: construction of a second left turn lane for northbound Caldwell Rd at Portland St/Cole Harbour Rd, new sidewalk on both sides of Caldwell Rd from Hampton Green to Portland St/Cole Harbour Rd, new bus pads on Caldwell Rd, and a left turn lane for southbound Caldwell Rd at Hampton Green. The inclusion of bike lanes was considered, but due to high cost will not be included. This project is currently in the design phase and is pending Council budget approval. Construction is tentatively scheduled for summer/autumn of 2013.

As part of HRM's urban forest master plan (UFMP) 204 new street trees will be planted along Caldwell Road in Colby Village. A variety of hardy native tree species will be selected. In years to come these trees will beautify the neighbourhood and grow tall to form a protective canopy cover. Planting will continue throughout the spring. The UFMP website will be updated on a regular basis to help you stay informed about upcoming planting schedules and volunteer opportunities in your neighbourhood. Visit the website at www.halifaxca/RealPropertyPlanning/UFMP

On Thursday, May 16 from 5:30 -7:30 pm, Auburn High School's Green Team will host a Community BBQ at Auburn High to celebrate their community garden. Planters will be available to sponsor (to plant and tend) for a \$20 fee which will help offset the placement of water barrels for summer watering.

On May 24 - 26 a Women's Wellbeing Expo will be held at Cole Harbour Place. With a focus on women, 85 exhibitors at the trade show, including businesses, not for profit organizations and health care providers, will be here to share their information, products, and entertainment with you. Throughout the weekend workshops will be given by clinicians, researchers, a physiotherapist, a clinical nurse specialist and others in the fields of financial, social, physical and spiritual wellness. To find out more visit the website at www.womenswellbeingexpo.com.

HRM Recreation will be holding a special event during HRM Bike Week to celebrate the opening of the new bridge on the Bissett Lake Trail. The event will take place on June 8th, 2013 and additional details will be available soon. There will be activities and prizes for both hikers & bikers! For more information watch for the HRM Bike Week promotions or contact the Cole Harbour Recreation Office by calling 490-4711.

I would like to thank the Community Herald for the opportunity to keep residents informed on what is going on in our community and I look forward to sharing updates, notices and events.

If you have any issues or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me by email at lorelei.nicoll@halifax.ca or phone (902) 478-2705.