



Together We Can Build Safe, Healthy, Active Communities

WELCOME DECEMBER

It's hard to believe December is already here! With it comes the start of winter and the holiday season, just a few short weeks away.

The holidays are a time to celebrate and reflect as the year draws to a close. I want to wish everyone a joyful season and a happy, healthy new year.

A heartfelt thank you to our first responders and health care professionals who continue to serve and protect our community throughout the holiday season. Your dedication, sacrifice, and compassion are deeply appreciated.

Looking ahead, the Square Roots Free Produce Program will take place on Dec. 20 from 9–11 a.m. at the East Dartmouth Community Centre. To receive a produce bundle, you must sign up. I'll share the sign-up sheet on my Facebook page the Monday before.

As always, please feel free to reach out to me with any of your municipal questions or concerns.

Merry Christmas, Buon Natale, Joyeux Noël

BIENVENUE AU MOIS DE DÉCEMBRE

Il est difficile de croire que décembre est déjà là! Avec cela vient le début de l'hiver et la période des fêtes, dans quelques semaines seulement.

Les fêtes sont un moment pour célébrer et réfléchir alors que l'année touche à sa fin. Je souhaite à tous une saison joyeuse et une nouvelle année heureuse et en santé.

Un sincère merci à nos premiers intervenants et professionnels de la santé qui continuent de servir et de protéger notre communauté tout au long de la période des fêtes. Votre dévouement, votre sacrifice et votre compassion sont profondément appréciés.

En regardant vers l'avenir, le programme de produits gratuits Square Roots aura lieu le 20 décembre de 9 h à 11 h au Centre communautaire d'East Dartmouth. Pour recevoir un panier de produits, vous devez vous inscrire. Je partagerai la feuille d'inscription sur ma page Facebook le lundi précédent.

Comme toujours, n'hésitez pas à communiquer avec moi pour toute question ou préoccupation municipale.

Joyeux Noël, Buon Natale, Merry Christmas



COUNCILLOR TONY MANCINI

DARTMOUTH EAST - BURNSIDE

ANNIVERSARY OF THE HALIFAX EXPLOSION

Dec. 6 marks the 108th anniversary of the Halifax Explosion, one of the most devastating events in our city's history.



On the anniversary, residents are invited to gather at 9 a.m. at the Bell Tower in Fort Needham Memorial Park for the annual Halifax Explosion Memorial Service to honour the lives lost and the resilience of those impacted.

On Dec. 6, 1917, the collision of the French munitions ship Mont Blanc and the Norwegian relief ship Imo in the Narrows of Halifax Harbour caused a catastrophic explosion. The blast leveled much of north-end Halifax, killing over 2,000 people and injuring 9,000 more and buildings throughout Halifax and Dartmouth were significantly damaged.

At 9:04 a.m., naval ships across the Dockyard will sound their whistles for one minute in remembrance.

Learn more [here](#).

SNOW CLEARING

Snow clearing in our municipality is a big job and if stretched into a straight line, it would reach from Halifax to Winnipeg. Streets and sidewalks are prioritized based on commuter usage and access to key infrastructure.



Learn more [here](#).



WINTER 2026 REC PROGRAM REGISTRATION

Winter 2026 recreation program registration has begun for rec programs with registration opening for aquatics and skating on Dec. 9 at 10 a.m. To preview upcoming program PDFs, visit our [website](#)

to see what's available in your community.



For more information on recreation programming, [click here](#).



COUNCILLOR TONY MANCINI

DARTMOUTH EAST - BURNSIDE

NEWS REGARDING CURBSIDE RECYCLING

Extended producer responsibility (EPR) will expand what packaging and paper materials are accepted at the curb such as hot & cold beverage cups, pet food bags, frozen juice containers, other paper packaging, as well as plastic packaging such as toothpaste tubes, hand cream tubes & deodorant sticks.

Under EPR companies that made those materials will pay to collect it. This is expected to save HRM taxpayers approximately \$4.3 million. This is a positive step forward in reducing the amount of waste in our landfills, which is good for the environment.

As of Dec. 1, everyone in Nova Scotia can now take the same items to the curb for recycling.

This program is many years in the making. Thank you to all the municipalities across the province for your hard work. A special thank you to Minister Tim Halman for your leadership and getting this program launched.



PARKING BAN

The overnight winter parking ban is in effect every year from Dec. 15 until Mar. 31; however, it is only enforced during declared weather events and clearing operations. When the ban is enforced, it restricts any on-street parking between 1 a.m. and 6 a.m. Vehicles in violation of the ban will be ticketed and/or towed.

Remember to stay informed about the status of the parking ban and please think before you park.





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DARTMOUTH EAST - BURNSIDE

MUNICIPAL BUDGET CONSULTATIONS UNDERWAY

Halifax Regional Council has begun the 2026/27 municipal budget process with the release of the proposed Budget Direction on Nov. 19. The annual municipal budget funds all municipal operations and services, including transit, police, fire services, parks, snow clearing, waste collection, capital projects, and required contributions to reserves.

As is typical during the budget cycle, the initial figures presented are a starting point for Council's deliberations. Through the budget consultation and adjustment process, Councillors will have the opportunity to propose changes to the staff recommendations to find efficiencies while balancing the core services the municipality needs.

This year's starting Budget Direction reflects an estimated \$88.9 million increase needed to maintain service levels, meet contractual and inflationary costs, and support previously approved initiatives. Based on current projections, this would require an average residential property tax bill increase of approximately 10.5%.

Business units will present their proposed budgets to the Budget Committee over the coming weeks. Residents will have opportunities to follow deliberations online and participate directly during the public participation portions of each meeting.

Members of the public may speak in person or virtually, and can register or submit written correspondence through the meeting agenda page on [Halifax.ca](https://halifax.ca), where instructions are posted for each session.



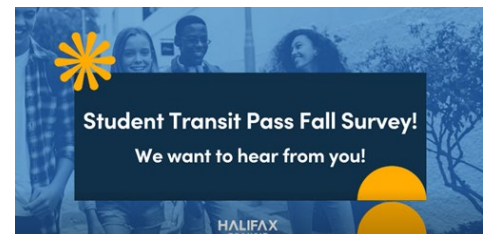
 **We're hiring fleet maintenance roles**
Learn more at halifax.ca/transit
HALIFAX TRANSIT

STUDENT TRANSIT PASS PROGRAM SURVEY

Halifax Transit wants to hear from you. What do you think about the Student Transit Pass Program?

Share your thoughts and complete the Student Transit Pass survey by Dec. 15.

For full details, [click here](#).



WINTER GARBAGE COLLECTION

As the snow season approaches, please remember to place waste for curbside collection in a spot that won't interfere with sidewalk or road clearing. To help our crews keep pathways safe and accessible, place waste at the edge of your driveway, not on the sidewalk or road.





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CLAUDIA CURRIE



District 6 resident Claudia Currie passed away this week after a courageous battle with cancer. Claudia was the founder of Fight4Life Halifax. The Fight4Life Association is a grassroots charity; the mission of the Association is to support members of the Halifax Professional Firefighters Association IAFF L0268 with respect to cognitive and behavioural wellness. Thank you for all that you have done. You will be greatly missed.

SHUBIE WINTERFEST IS BACK!



Shubie Winterfest was a huge hit last year so we are bringing it back! I hope you can join us on Saturday, Feb. 7 from 4-6 p.m. More details to follow in my January E-News.

JOIN HRP 2027 CADET CLASS

Join the Halifax Regional Municipality as a Cadet with the Training division of Halifax Regional Police. There are full-time student positions available.



The Halifax Police Program teaches the knowledge, skills and discipline needed to serve and protect communities with integrity. Cadets will be trained in law, ethics, communication, defensive tactics and crisis management. Training also emphasizes teamwork, resilience and community engagement. All the tools to prepare you as an Officer who upholds justice, maintains public safety and builds trust with the people you serve.

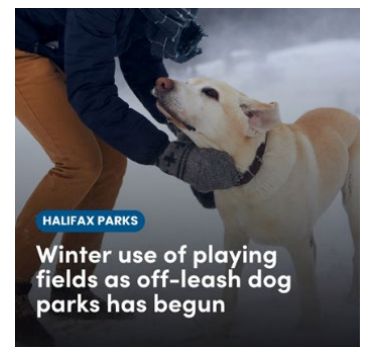
Apply by 11:59 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 9, 2025.

Learn more [here](#).

OFF-LEASH DOG PARKS

Winter use of playing fields as off-leash dog parks has begun.

For a list of approved off-leash areas throughout the municipality, visit our [website](#).





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DARTMOUTH EAST - BURNSIDE

VOLUNTEER AWARD NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN

Nominations for the 2026 Volunteer Awards are open!

Every year, the municipality recognizes the extraordinary contributions of outstanding individuals and groups who volunteer their time and skills to provide services and programs in their communities. The annual Volunteer Awards put a spotlight on the residents who make a meaningful difference in our region.



There are three categories open for applications: Youth, Adult and Group. The award recipients will be announced at the 2026 Volunteer Awards ceremony on Wednesday, April 22, which coincides with National Volunteer Week.

For more information, click [here](#).



Having a blast at the new Bedford Pump Track!

PROVINCE APPROVES DARTMOUTH COVE PLANNING AMENDMENTS WITH CONDITIONS

The Province of Nova Scotia has approved Halifax Regional Municipality's planning amendments for Dartmouth Cove, with conditions.

On Nov. 26, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing confirmed the amendments will proceed, subject to HRM demonstrating that all water lots in the Dartmouth Cove Special Area fall fully within municipal boundaries; that the municipality has authority under the HRM Charter to regulate infilling; and that the measures do not infringe on federal jurisdiction.

The province's review was required under legislation, as planning amendments must be approved before taking effect.

At the Tuesday, Oct. 7 meeting, Halifax Regional Council voted 12-3 to adopt planning amendments that would restrict infilling in Dartmouth Cove, following a public hearing.

The decision follows a series of motions dating back to 2023 that directed staff to explore options to manage and regulate water lot development in Dartmouth Cove. While staff had recommended deferring changes until completion of the Downtown Dartmouth Waterfront Revitalization (DDWR) Project, Council instead chose one of three alternative approaches presented in the report: a full restriction on infilling within Dartmouth Cove.

Council's decision aims to balance environmental, recreational, and development considerations while ensuring future planning for the Dartmouth waterfront proceeds in a coordinated manner.



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DARTMOUTH EAST - BURNSIDE

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES PLAN PROGRESS REPORT

The Halifax Regional Municipality has released the [2024/25 Strategic Priorities Plan Progress Report](#).

This annual report provides a high-level analysis on the municipality's progress in delivering Regional Council's priorities and the management of municipal services, staff and finances, using strategic indicators. This is the fourth annual report on the [2021-25 Strategic Priorities Plan](#).



The [Strategic Performance Snapshot](#), the municipality's public-facing dashboard has also been updated with data for 2024/25. This online tool is a 'snapshot' in time based on data that is updated annually to provide residents with insights on how the municipality is performing.

To view the full report and explore the dashboard, visit our [website](#).



2026

Please join **Mayor Andy Fillmore** and members of the Regional Council in celebrating the arrival of 2026 at the New Year's Levee.

Jan. 1, 2026 | 9:30-11 a.m.
Halifax City Hall (Halifax Hall)
1841 Argyle Street, Halifax



CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF COURAGE 2006 - 2026



Olivia 2016



Samantha 2009



Olivia 2017



Kayla 2006



Jessica 2015



Emzie 2025



CAMP COURAGE
THE FIRST RESPONDER SOCIETY

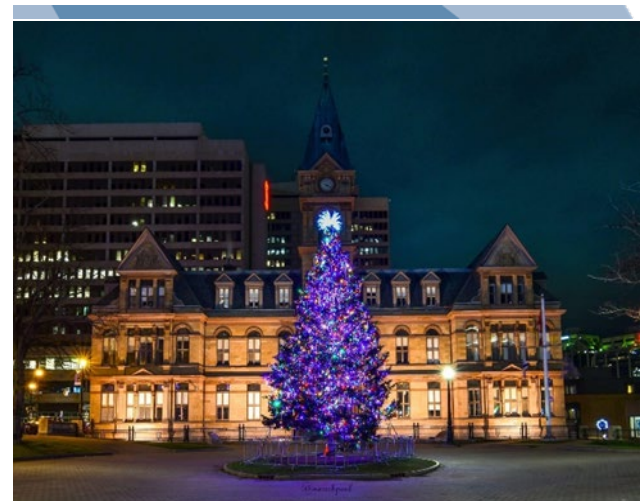
An empowering FREE program introducing Nova Scotian females and gender diverse youth ages 15-19 years to emergency service careers.

Camp Dates : July 4th to 12th
Application Deadline : February 7th

Contact:
campcourage.ca
902-701-1405



STEP UP TODAY



Halifax City Hall Christmas Tree



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DARTMOUTH EAST - BURNSIDE

311 OFFERS MULTILINGUAL AND ACCESSIBLE SUPPORT

Did you know 311 provides accessible support for municipal services and information over the phone at in-person at our contact centres?

NEW ASL Video Relay Service: Deaf and hard of hearing residents who contact 311 can now request real-time sign language interpretation through SRV Canada VRS.

Multilingual Services: When calling 311 or visiting a centre, residents who need to communicate in languages other than English can request interpretation services in over 300 languages.

Learn more [here](#).

New ASL Video
Relay Service



311 | Accessibility Tools



Multilingual
Services

2025/26 FIRESMART VEGETATIVE DEBRIS MANAGEMENT SUPPORT

Halifax Regional Council has directed the CAO to allocate \$20,000 to support vegetative yard waste and debris disposal during municipal FireSmart events.

FireSmart™ Canada is a national program focused on wildfire resilience through education and mitigation. Halifax Regional Fire & Emergency (HRFE) adopted FireSmart in 2022 and intensified efforts following the May 2023 wildfire in Upper Tantallon, which destroyed over 150 homes.

HalifACT will provide up to \$20,000 from the Small Projects Bundle to support HRFE in coordinating vegetative debris management, including:

- Curbside collection for eligible properties
- Mobile chipping services via private contracts
- Temporary drop-off sites on HRM property
- On-site processing using air curtain burners or grinders
- Hauling and recycling through local facilities

For more information, read the [staff report](#).

WHO DOES WHAT?

Federal Government

Airports	Criminal laws	Canadians Mortgages
Borders & passports	Employment Insurance	National RCMP
Broadcasting & telecommunications	Environment	National defence & veterans affairs
Canada Child Benefit	Fisheries, oceans & national parks	Postal service
Charter of Human Rights	Immigration	Student loans
Correctional facilities	Income tax	
	International travel and support for abroad	

Provincial Government

Addictions and mental health	100 series highways & off ramps	Property tax (property assessment)
Affordable/public housing	Hospitals	Provincial parks
Correctional facilities	Housing	Provincial RCMP
Employer and employee supports	Justice	Schools and school parking lots
Environment	Landlord and tenant supports	Student loans
Family and Community Support Services	Lakes	Workplace safety
	Post-secondary education	

Municipal Government

City Hall	Municipal police force (i.e. HRP & RCMP District H)	Property tax (municipal portion)
Development and building permits and fees	Municipal parks	Recreation facilities
Environment	Libraries	Snow removal & waste collection
Fire services (i.e. HRFE)	Local road maintenance & improvement	Transit
Halifax Water	Parks, trails and playgrounds	



Now collecting – Nov 10 - Dec 19

Help support local families in the community with new or gently used coat!

Drop off between Monday - Friday
9:00am-5:00pm

50 Caledonia Rd.
Mittens, gloves, hats, winter boots also welcome





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DARTMOUTH EAST - BURNSIDE

SCAN: SAFER COMMUNITIES AND NEIGHBOURHOODS ACT

Are you worried about illegal drugs, alcohol, prostitution, or gaming in your building or on your street? *The Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Act* (SCAN) gives you a way to report your concerns and take back your neighbourhood.



SCAN improves community safety by targeting and, if necessary, shutting down residential and commercial buildings and land that are regularly used for illegal activities.

SCAN gives citizens the tools to report problem residences and businesses, and gives authorities the power to investigate and take action. It also holds property owners accountable for threatening or disturbing activities regularly taking place on their property.

If you want to report a problem property or have any questions regarding SCAN, please call toll free at 1-877-357-2337. Hours of operation are Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. If calling after hours, you can leave a message and someone will return your call.

If you are reporting a problem property, you may also want to notify your local police agency. **If you have an emergency, dial 911.**

Remember - It's Your Neighbourhood. Your call.

Learn more [here](#).

OPERATION CHRISTMAS BEGINS

Operation Christmas, an annual province-wide campaign that aims to reduce impaired driving, has begun.

Operation Christmas was kicked off this morning on Citadel Hill, where law enforcement agencies and public safety partners from across Nova Scotia gathered to speak about the impacts of impaired driving.

Officers then set up checkpoints across Halifax Regional Municipality to conduct enforcement and hand out educational materials about the dangers of impaired driving.

This year, Halifax Transit supported Operation Christmas by donating hundreds of transit tickets for officers to distribute at roadside checkpoints. The donation served as an important reminder that there are always safe alternatives to driving impaired.

Operation Christmas will continue throughout the month of December with an increased number of roadside checkpoints across Nova Scotia.





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DARTMOUTH EAST - BURNSIDE

UPCOMING REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETINGS

There are two Regional Council meeting scheduled for December. Regional Council meetings are held on Tuesdays:

- Dec. 9
- Dec. 11 (special meeting)

Check out the full schedule of upcoming meetings – including committees [here](#). Meeting agendas (including the specific start time of 10 a.m. or 1 p.m.) and a link to watch the video are generally available by the Friday prior to the meeting. Reports on the items that councillors vote on are available and are linked throughout the meeting agenda.

COMMUNITY COUNCIL SCHEDULE AND AGENDA

The Harbour East – Marine Drive Community Council normally meets on the first Thursday of each month, at 6 p.m. in the HEMDCC Meeting Space, Main Floor Alderney Gate, 60 Alderney Drive, Dartmouth. Meeting dates, time and location are subject to change. You can find agendas, report, and minutes [online](#).

The HEMDCC webcast will be live on HRM's [YouTube channel](#) and [agenda postings](#). Stay tuned for the video link to be shared closer to the next HEMDCC meeting, scheduled for Thursday, Dec. 4.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Halifax Regional Municipality is located in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and traditional lands of the Mi'kmaq people. The municipality acknowledges the Peace and Friendship Treaties signed in this territory and recognizes that we are all Treaty People.

We also acknowledge the histories and legacies of the African Nova Scotian people and communities that have been here for more than 400 years.

The Acadians founded the first permanent settlement in North America on this land that would later become Nova Scotia. The Acadian people have contributed to the economic, cultural and social vitality of our province for more than 400 years. We recognize that the identity of the Acadian people is defined by its history, its language, its culture, its customs.

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Currently serving on:
Harbour East Marine Drive Community Council
Regional Centre Community Council
Board of Police Commissioners
Environment & Sustainability Standing Committee
Executive Standing Committee
Halifax Regional Library Board
Shubenacadie Canal Commission
Woodlawn High School Advisory Committee