

COUNCILLOR SHAWN CLEARY

HALIFAX WEST ARMDALE DISTRICT 9 NEWSLETTER



HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

SUMMER 2022



DEAR RESIDENTS,

Congratulations graduates, and happy summer to all! I hope you find the contents of this newsletter informative.

I've highlighted the 2022 State of the Municipality address that provides an overview of where we are as a municipality; our District 9 2022 Volunteer Award recipients; an update on homelessness and encampments in HRM and the work that Regional Council is doing regarding this matter; upcoming capital projects in Halifax West Armdale; and news about some great new gym equipment coming to Saunders Park.

I encourage you to contact me at any time should you wish to discuss municipal programs and services at Shawn.Cleary@halifax.ca or call 902.579.6746. It remains a privilege to be your representative on Halifax Regional Council.

Respectfully,

Shawn Cleary
Councillor District 9
Halifax West Armdale

E-NEWS SIGNUP

In addition to this print newsletter, I also provide a monthly e-newsletter via social media and e-mail, and regular updates throughout the month on various municipal topics. To subscribe to the email list, please visit shawncleary.ca/contact--subscribe.html and enter your information. You can unsubscribe at anytime. Your email address will not be shared.

CONTACT INFORMATION

311 - MUNICIPAL CITIZEN CONTACT CENTRE

Call 311 or visit halifax.ca/311 to report a municipal issue. Hours are: Mon-Fri, 8 a.m.-8 p.m.; Sat-Sun, 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

CONTACT MY OFFICE

Contact my Council Constituency Coordinator Chris Newson by email at Chris.Newson@halifax.ca or by calling 902.490.1562

CONTACT ME

Councillor, District 9
Halifax West Armdale
PO Box 1749
Halifax, NS B3J 3A5
902.579.6746
Shawn.Cleary@halifax.ca

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OTHER USEFUL NUMBERS

Police/Fire Emergency 911
Police (non-emergency) 902.490.5020
Fire (non-emergency) 902.490.5530
Halifax Water Emergency 902.490.6940
Councillors' Support Office 902.490.4050

HALIFAX



DISTRICT 9 NEWSLETTER

Halifax West Armdale - Summer 2022

COMMUNITY EVENTS

If you are aware of a community event or announcement and would like it included in a future newsletter or E-newsletter, please forward the information to my Coordinator, Chris Newson at Chris.Newson@halifax.ca.

STATE OF THE MUNICIPALITY

The 2022 State of the Municipality event was held on April 28th. The annual event, hosted by the Halifax Partnership and the Halifax Chamber of Commerce, provides an overview of where we are as a municipality. At the event, Mayor Mike Savage addressed the challenges of today and opportunities for growth. As Mayor Savage said at the event, "I believe that Halifax is a city for today and more and more a city for tomorrow. We are building a city for everybody, and the work continues."

Here are some key points from the Mayor's address, shared by the Halifax Partnership:

- The fastest-growing demographic in Halifax has been people ages 15-34 years, with Mayor Savage stating that "Halifax is now becoming the destination for young people, not the departure point."
- Halifax was the first city in Canada to be recognized by the UN High Commission on Refugees to be named a welcoming city for refugees.
- Halifax has the highest number of housing units under construction ever, with the mayor adding that while this is good, it's still not enough. "We are in a housing crisis. It is time to put aside ego and jurisdiction to find solutions that address supply and affordability."
- Speaking about the new Cogswell District project, the mayor said it will be "a neighbourhood where inclusiveness goes beyond symbols and words. Where people will live, work, and play. Where we can grow together and thrive."

2022 VOLUNTEER AWARD RECIPIENTS

Each year during National Volunteer Week, the Halifax Regional Municipality holds an award ceremony to acknowledge and honour the contributions of volunteers and volunteer organizations in our communities. I am pleased to recognize and ask that you join me in thanking these exceptional community volunteers for their dedication of time and commitment to the communities of District 9:

Aimee Gasparetto

Aimee always goes above and beyond in her volunteer role with Nourish Nova Scotia and is making a difference in the lives of our province's youngest citizens. Whether fundraising for the Blue Nose Charity Challenge, representing Nourish at the NS Legislature, or meeting with MLAs, Aimee is always onside to support Nourish. We are so grateful for Aimee's dedication to supporting healthy, just, and sustainable food futures for all children and youth in Nova Scotia.

Heather Nicole McGrath

Heather volunteers in many areas of our community such as youth sport, PTA, raising funds and awareness for cancer research and Camp Brigadoon. Her dedication to Give to Live's annual Big Swim event is most impressive, with almost a decade of commitment to the event which has raised over \$1.5 million to sponsor children to attend Camp Brigadoon. As event director, Heather pours countless hours and energy into the organization and running of this important event which benefits children, youth and families in Atlantic Canada. Heather's commitment to service is unparalleled, and her dedication to community is inspiring.

Jane Rafuse

Jane has been a tremendous supporter of Blue Nose Marathon as both a participant and volunteer. Her volunteer efforts have helped thousands of participants get ready for their race. Jane is helpful, kind, and caring. Blue Nose Marathon would not be the success it is without the dedication of Jane. Thank you, Jane, for all you continue to do.

Thank you to all volunteers! Our community is made even richer by your contributions.

ECONOMIC STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

VISION

A prosperous, growing Halifax that puts the well-being of people and planet first.

By 2037 grow GDP to **\$32 billion** and population to **650,000**

VALUE PROPOSITION



Ocean Advantage



Commitment to Climate Action



Educated & Innovative



Excellent Urban, Suburban, Rural Lifestyle

5-YEAR STRATEGIC GOALS



Promote & Maximize Inclusive and Sustainable Growth

Grow GDP to **\$25 billion** by 2027



Attract, Retain & Develop Talent

Increase population to **525,000** and grow the labour force to **310,000** by 2027



Make Halifax a Better Place to Live and Work

Increase residents' well-being on a continuous basis



DISTRICT 9 NEWSLETTER

Halifax West Armdale - Summer 2022

DISTRICT 9 CAPITAL PROJECTS

Staff plan to complete the following street and sidewalk work throughout District 9 this construction season:

Street Recapitalization

Churchill Dr – Roosevelt to Flinn (Integrated Traffic Calming/Halifax Water)
Churchill Dr – MacDonald to Quinn (Halifax Water)
Flinn St – Roosevelt to MacDonald (Halifax Water)
Roosevelt Dr – Chebucto to Flinn (Integrated Traffic Calming/Halifax Water)

Asphalt Overlays

Bryden Ave – Seaview to Crestview (Integrated Traffic Calming), Crestview Dr – Glenora to Bryden (Integrated Traffic Calming), and Norwood St – Preston to Bloomingdale (Integrated Traffic Calming)

AAA Regional Centre Bikeways

Joseph Howe/Exit 0 Active Transportation Connections
Highway 102 – Ralston to Pennington (Multi-Use Pathway)

Retaining Walls

31 Fairmount Rd

Guiderails

31 Fairmount Rd, 77 Withrod Dr at Wildwood, and Chebucto/MacDonald

Traffic Calming

Abbott Dr – Ralston to Joseph Howe
Beech St – Pepperell to Norwood
Bridgeview Dr – Towerview to Colindale
Cambridge St – Pepperell to Norwood
Towerview Dr – Bridgeview to Glenora

Planer Patching

Williams Lake Rd – Purcell's Cove to Herring Cove

Proposed Crack Sealing

Colindale St – Purcell's Cove to Inverness
Connaught Ave (N) – Quinpool to Chebucto
Connolly St – Bayers to Chebucto
Edgehill Rd – Quarry to Fenwood
George Dauphinee Ave – Bayers to Ralph Devlin
Herbert Rd – Quarry to End
Inverness St – Redwood to Purcell's Cove
Joseph Howe Dr – Fairview Overpass to Armdale Rotary
Layton Rd – Herring Cove to Penny
Mumford Rd – Joseph Howe to Leppert
Stonehaven Rd – Fenwood to Glenmore
Walsh Crt – Quarry to End
Young St – Connaught to Oxford

HOMELESSNESS & ENCAMPMENTS

On May 3rd, Regional Council discussed the issue of homelessness including potential temporary outdoor shelters. The staff report addressed the issue of encampments as follows: *"Most stakeholders indicated that the practice of not forcing out those sleeping in deep woods areas and providing supports as possible to them is an approach that should be continued. There was clear feedback from a range of stakeholders that the municipality needs to provide an option for people who need to sleep on public land."*

On June 14th, Council approved a motion to endorse proposed criteria and locations in municipal parks for designated camping for those experiencing homelessness. Four areas in total were approved for overnight sheltering. This is in addition to modular units in Halifax and Dartmouth that are both complete (the province's service provider, Out of the Cold, has begun the process of gradually moving individuals into the Halifax modular, while the Dartmouth site is already occupied).

The four areas to become available as designated camping sites for persons experiencing homelessness include the Barrington Street Green Space between Cornwallis St. and North St. in Halifax, Lower Flinn Park in Halifax, along with Geary Street Green Space and Green Road Park in Dartmouth. These locations meet specific criteria that is outlined below and will allow 30+ people to sleep rough in the community. A maximum of four tents per site will be permitted.

For the locations designated as sheltering places for multiple nights, some form of toilet facility should be provided and, if possible, a water source. These sites should have garbage cans and regular collection and an option for dry goods storage. Anyone sheltering in a park will be expected to comply with applicable laws, including provincial and HRM burning restrictions.

Selecting these locations involved specific criteria, including: they cannot be within 50 metres of a school, daycare, or adult care facility; on active sports fields, dugouts, or bleachers; within horticultural displays or gardens; within cemeteries; near environmentally or culturally sensitive areas; blocking a path or right of access; on bridges, docks, or piers; near playgrounds, pools, or splash pads; near skateboard parks or sports courts; near picnic shelters, gazebos; near recreation facilities; or in highly inaccessible spaces for individuals, services, and support providers.

Continued on next page



HOMELESSNESS & ENCAMPMENTS

Continued

What happens next?

- Posting signage, maps and information, and installing washrooms and potable water where it is not already available.
- Training for compliance/enforcement and making connections with service providers and navigators.
- A staff report has been requested to provide further analysis and recommendations for next steps, including a timeline and plan for supporting the transition of people, with related education and implementation to be led by civilian staff.

BAYERS ROAD TRANSIT PRIORITY CORRIDOR

Transit priority measures are treatments introduced on a roadway that give an advantage to buses. These tools prioritize the movement of Halifax Transit buses over other vehicles, reducing travel time and increasing reliability. Examples include transit only lanes that allow buses to bypass general traffic, dedicated bus lanes, and queue jump traffic signals that allow buses to go before the general traffic green light. As of May 26th, a dedicated transit-only bus lane has opened on Bayers Road, between Windsor Street and Connolly Street. The new, transit-only lane will operate outbound (north side of Bayers Road) on weekdays from 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. This interim transit priority measure will improve transit operations along this corridor, as part of the Bayers Road Transit Priority Corridor.

There will be no parking on the north side of Bayers Road and no left turns from Bayers Road to Oxford Street on weekdays from 3 p.m. - 6 p.m. No new construction is required for this initiative, and on-street parking on the south side of Bayers Road will not be impacted. Halifax Transit routes 1, 330, and 194 will be rerouted to travel on this new lane. This is an interim solution while work continues on the final Bayers Road phase 2 approach.

COGSWELL DISTRICT PROJECT

This multi-year, multi-phase project designed to convert 16 acres of road infrastructure into a mixed-use neighborhood. The urban street grid will be reinstated

and will create development blocks capable of supporting new residential and commercial environments for 2,500 people. High quality dedicated cycling lanes, multi-use trails, new parks and open spaces, a reimagined transit hub, and a significant central urban square will transform this traffic-centric area into a livable pedestrian friendly area. The completion of the Cogswell District project is expected to cost about \$122.6M with expected completion by Fall 2025. This project has the potential to be primarily self-funded in the long term; the sale of land, utility cost sharing, and the subsequent property taxes will help off-set the front-end investment and generate long-term recurring revenue for the municipality. As construction has started (awarded to Dexter Construction Ltd.) periodic road closures and lane drops will be required.

Visit halifax.ca/cogswell to learn more about the project plan and see the latest updates and construction notices.

SAUNDERS PARK OUTDOOR GYM EQUIPMENT

Over the summer you will see the installation of two more pieces of outdoor gym equipment in Saunders Park on Chebucto Road. The two EVEREST Cardio Climbers take the basics of indoor fitness into the outdoor world. They are safe and designed for any fitness level or ability. Already in Saunders Park there is an Apollo machine that has 16 exercise options (an assisted chin up bar, high pulley station, dip station, low pulley station, abdominal vertical knee raise; back extension bench, calf raise and a pylo box).

MEETING WITH MLA CHURCHILL



I recently met with the Hon. Zack Churchill, MLA, to discuss affordable housing, community development and social justice.



Please recycle.

Delivery Note:

Due to the delivery routes followed by Canada Post, it is possible that some of these newsletters may appear in other Districts. If you receive it in error, I apologize for any confusion and hope you find its content useful.