



COUNCILLOR LISA BLACKBURN
DISTRICT 14 ONLINE NEWS
 MIDDLE/UPPER SACKVILLE - BEAVER BANK - LUCASVILLE

WELCOME MARCH!



International Women's Day is March 8th, Daylight Saving Time (DST) starts March 11th; March Break is the 12th – 16th, March 17th is St. Patrick's Day; March 20th is the first day of spring, March

30th is Good Friday; and, Regional Council will be finalizing the HRM 2018/19 Capital and Operating budgets in March. Lots of fun times this month.

This E-newsletter contains information on: local March Break activities, the Homelessness and Hunger Forum, Rail to Trail discussions, HRM's Solar City Program plus much, much more!

The 1st Friday of each month, I am available at the Beaver Bank Kinsac Community Centre, 1583 Beaver Bank Road (my Beaver Bank Hub office) **from 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm**. Come on in for a chat

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME 2018



Turn your clocks ahead one hour on Sunday, March 11th. It's also a good time to change the batteries in your smoke / carbon monoxide detectors too!





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WATERSTONE NEIGHBOURHOOD ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – MARCH 7

Reminder to all residents of the Waterstone neighbourhood of the upcoming AGM.

DATE:	Wednesday, March 7 th
TIME:	7:00 pm – 9:00 pm
LOCATION:	Sackville Heights Community Centre, 45 Connolly Road
CONTACT:	waterstonevillage@hotmail.com

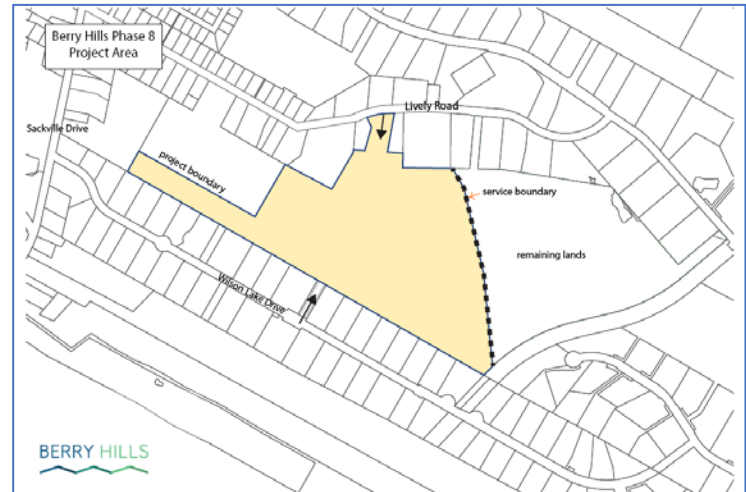
LUCASVILLE GREENWAY SOCIETY – FORMATION MEETING

Everyone is welcome to come join the group advocating for a walking and biking trail on Lucasville Road and surrounding subdivisions.

Lucasville Road has been added to the Active Transportation Plan and the Lucasville Greenway Walking/Biking Trail Committee has been very active in developing concept plans for a multi-use pathway.

DATE:	Wednesday, March 7, 2018
TIME:	7:00 p.m.
LOCATION:	Wallace Lucas Community Centre, 596 Lucasville Road (Light refreshments provided)
CONTACT:	Email: LucasvilleGreenway@gmail.com Facebook: Wallace Lucas Community Centre & Lucasville Greenway Walking/Biking Trail

BERRY HILLS (PHASE 8) OPEN HOUSE – WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7th



Armco Capital has applied for a Development Agreement for a residential development in Middle Sackville (PID 41071069), referred to as Berry Hills Phase 8. This property is 50+ acres located between Wilson Lake Drive and Lively Road. Under HRM Policy SU-6, the Berry Hills Phase 8 site is zoned CDD. This means that the property can be developed for residential uses. The land is located within the service boundary, and all lots will be serviced with municipal water and sewer.

In 2014, Armco submitted a Development Agreement application for a mix of residential uses. Based on feedback from members of the public and HRM, the application was dropped.

In 2017, a new Concept Plan was submitted by Armco to HRM for review and feedback; and, in February 2018, an Open House was held for those residents in closest proximity to the new development. Based on the feedback from that Open House, and other conversations with



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residents, Armco made several changes to the Concept Plan.

A second Open House, hosted by Armco, to present their latest Concept Plan and to gather feedback from area residents will be held **on Wednesday, March 7th**.

TIME: 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
LOCATION: Sackville Heights Elementary School Cafeteria, 1225 Old Sackville Road

For more information, contact **Laura Masching, Planner, Armco Capital**, at 902.423.4000 ext 226 or email: maschingl@armcocap.com.

NOTE: These dates are subject to change. Confirm dates / times with the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 902.490.4210 or by email at: clerks@halifax.ca.



BUDGET 2018-2019

We, Regional Council, are getting closer to finalizing the [2018/19 Capital and Operating budgets](#). There is still time for you to have your say on how your tax dollars are allocated. You may attend the remaining Committee of the Whole Budget sessions and address your comments to Regional Council; or, you may use the [Budget Allocator tool](#) to show us where your priorities are in the allocation of these funds.

The [schedule of remaining meetings](#) may be found on the municipal website. The March / April meeting dates are as follows:

- **March 7, 2018 (9:30 a.m.):**
Fiscal and Consolidated Accounts
- **March 28, 2018 (9:30 a.m.):**
Budget Adjustment List Review
- **April 24, 2018 (10 a.m.):**
Full Review of Final Budget

MARCH 3RD COUNTRY MUSIC JAM AT BEAVER BANK BROWN HALL

Beaver Bank Brown Hall

Country Music Jam & Light Luncheon

Saturday Afternoons 2:00pm-4:30pm
Feb 3rd, Mar 3rd, Apr 7th, May 5th, Jun 2nd



Live music provided by:
Tammy Adams



Admission \$10

Canteen • 50/50 • Door Prizes 351 Beaver Bank Rd





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INTERESTED IN SERVING ON AN HRM BOARD OR COMMITTEE?

The following Infographic shows the process on how to get [a seat at the table](#) as a member of an HRM Board or Committee.

MARCH 8TH IS INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

MUNICIPAL BOARDS & COMMITTEES
A SEAT AT THE TABLE

STEP 1: ARE YOU ELIGIBLE?
To serve on a municipal board or committee you must be at least 18 years or older, and a resident of the municipality. Some boards may require its members to be Canadian citizens.

STEP 2: CHECK FOR OPPORTUNITIES
All vacancies are posted on our website, [halifax.ca](#), as well as supporting documents, such as minutes, agendas, terms of reference, and key staff contacts.

STEP 3: COMPLETE AND SEND YOUR APPLICATION
Interested applicants are encouraged to complete an online application, and may provide additional information by email to clerks@halifax.ca. You will receive confirmation that your application has been received.

STEP 4: THE COUNCIL SELECTION PROCESS
Your application is reviewed and presented confidentially to committee or council. The selection process may involve an interview with relevant staff and members of council.

STEP 5: READY TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE
You will be notified of the status of your application once the appointment has been made. Staff will be in contact with appointees to provide meeting materials and facilitate with any onboarding required.

halifax.ca/boardscom/volunteer.php

HALIFAX

2018 International Women's Day
Breakfast
Sackville & Area
March 8th,
8am - 10am
#PressforProgress

I am honoured to be one of the Speakers at this year's International Women's Day Breakfast as we celebrate women business owners and influencers in Sackville and surrounding areas. The event will be held at the Sackville Lions Club, 110 Old Beaver Bank Road, from 8:00am to 10:00am.

International Women's Day (IWD) is a day to recognize the achievements of women and to acknowledge the challenges that are continually faced in the quest for gender equality.

The first International Women's Day was observed on March 19, 1911 in Austria, Denmark, Germany and Switzerland. More than one million women and men participated in public events on that date. In the years that followed, other countries began to observe and celebrate International Women's Day.

The federal [Status of Women](#) website explains that the United Nations recognized 1975 as International Women's Year and began



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celebrating IWD on March 8, later adopting a resolution designating March 8 as International Women's Day.

Today, International Women's Day is celebrated around the world – in many countries, it is a national holiday. It has grown to become a global day of recognition of women's achievements and a call to action to support women's rights and advance gender equality.



DIVERSE VOICES FOR CHANGE

I will be speaking at the Federation of Canadian Municipality's (FCM) **Diverse Voices for Change** on March 8th at Halifax Hall, City Hall and providing my voice to help encourage all women to come forward in a more active role in local government.

A motivating initiative by FCM, funded by the Status of Women Canada, **Diverse Voices for Change** plans to increase the number of women from diverse communities who are actively informed by, and engaged in, local government decision-making. FCM's mandate is a goal to achieve 30 per cent women's participation in local government by 2026 by increasing the diversity of women in leadership roles at the municipal level.

There are five municipalities across the country currently involved with the **Diverse Voices for Change** initiative: HRM, NS, Montreal, PQ,

London, ON, Edmonton, AB and Sioux Lookout, ON. Each of these areas has a diverse population with much value to be added through enabling the voices of women to be heard as active participants in governing bodies. FCM supports municipal staff and elected officials to engage with urban Indigenous, racialized, and underrepresented immigrant women in creating a more inclusive municipal decision-making system.

Diverse Voices for Change aligns with Regional Council's Governance and Communications, Healthy Communities, and Economic Development priorities. Facilitating the Public Engagement outcome of the Governance & Communications priority, the project provides an opportunity for Halifax to effectively engage with diverse women and communities of interest towards the development of fair and responsive municipal policies. The project also supports the Healthy Communities priority by enhancing Halifax's leadership in building inclusive and accessible communities where diverse women can enjoy full participation. Additionally, under the Economic Development priority, **Diverse Voices for Change** aids in making Halifax a welcoming community where talented urban Aboriginal, African Nova Scotian, under-represented immigrants and other racialized women can find great opportunities.

I invite you to join us for this important message as we look to a more diverse elected body at all levels of government.

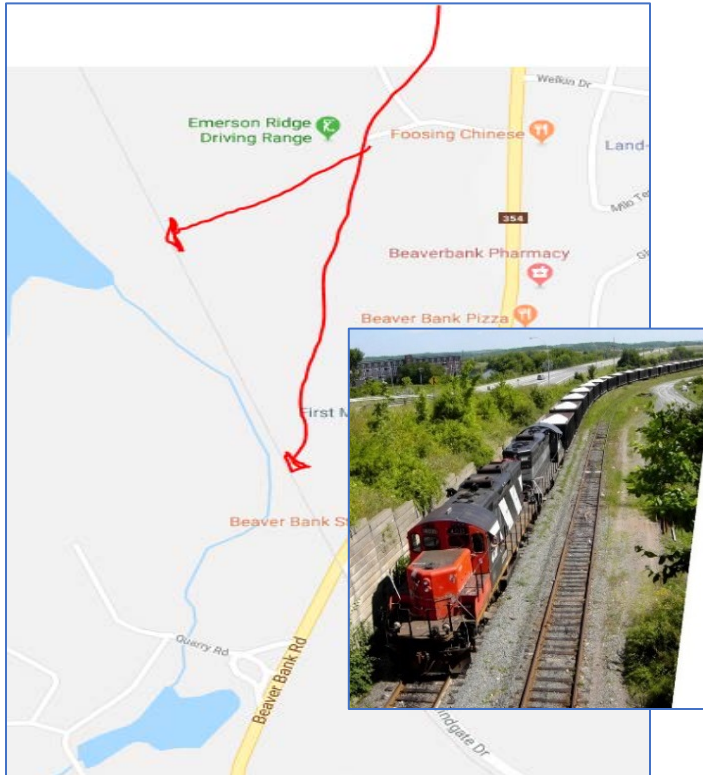




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RAIL TO TRAIL CONVERSION – WINDSOR AND HANTSPORT RAILWAY



Hantsport Railway as a part of the Regional Active Transportation Greenway Network.

A greenway in this corridor would connect well to the First Lake Trail Network, the Sackville River Greenway and, potentially, to a future Active Transportation Greenway between Dartmouth / Bedford / Lower Sackville that would be located adjacent to the planned extension of Highway 107. A result of the highway extension project would be the creation of several community connections to Beaver Bank, Millwood and Middle Sackville.



Bedford-Sackville Greenway Connector

I was pleased when, on January 30th, Regional Council approved a motion directing staff to:

- maintain communication with municipalities along the Windsor and Hantsport Rail (W&HR) Spur corridor
- monitor any changes in the ownership and operation of the facility
- write to CN and the Canadian Transportation Agency expressing HRM's interest in acquiring portions of the corridor, should it become available, for a Rails-to-Trails facility. The purpose would be to develop an active transportation facility on the Windsor and

HRM staff, in discussion with W&HR and Transport Canada, has identified five possible design options for the Hantsport Spur Line Greenway within HRM. These options are copied below for your convenience:

Option 1: Rails TO Trails

This is the standard mechanism for constructing greenways and was last used by HRM to construct the Chain of Lakes Trail: it is the recommendation of the Active Transportation Plan once acquisition of the corridor is possible. As this requires ties and rails to be removed and, train traffic no longer supported, it is



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not an option W&HR would currently consider.

Option 2: Rails UNDER Trails

In this option, rails and ties would be covered over to operate as a greenway. Because the rails are covered, train operation is not possible. This differs from the Rails TO Trails option as the rails can presumably be exposed if there were a desire to remove active transportation uses and resume rail operation. This option could work only if HRM agreed to abandon active transportation uses if W&HR decided to resume rail operation. While future rail operation may be unlikely, this still creates a significant risk to investing in the trail conversion.

Option 3: Rails WITH Trails

This option is essentially construction of a new greenway parallel to the rails, but takes advantage of extra space within the rail right-of-way to minimize property acquisition. Because this requires clearing, grading and a new granular substructure, it is the most expensive of the options.

Option 4: Rails IN Trails

This is the option that is being proposed by W&HR. In some locations within Kings County they have constructed this using recycled asphalt to bring the trail surface flush with the crown of the rail. HRM staff has expressed concern that wear and erosion will make it difficult to keep the surface flush with the rail and that there is need to maintain a flangeway for the wheel flanges of the train. Both conditions will result in the greenway being hazardous, particularly for bicycle traffic.

Option 5: Rails ABUTTING Trails

In this option, only a portion of the existing rail bed is used for the greenway and granular fill is used to extend it to its needed width. This layout avoids having exposed rails within the

greenway but will have a sharp drop-off on the side of the trail that abuts the rail.

TABLE ONE: COMPARISON OF OPTIONS

	Option 1 Rails TO Trails	Option 2 Rails UNDER Trails	Option 3 Rails WITH Trails	Option 4 Rails IN Trails	Options 5 Rails ABUTTING Trails
Relative magnitude of cost	\$	\$	\$\$\$	\$	\$\$
Safety/functionality of trail	●	●	●	○	◐
Separation of trail/train operation	●	●	●	○	◐
Achieve desired min 3.5m width	◐	○	●	○	●
Acceptable to spur line owner	○	○	●	●	●

Key: ● Fully meets criteria
 ◐ Partially meets criteria
 ○ Does not meet criteria

Staff has concluded that the best approach to developing active transportation uses is to acquire the right-of-way and undertake a Rails TO Trails (Option 1) project. If that is not possible, or if Council directs staff to expedite trail development through a leasing arrangement with W&HR, staff recommends the Rails ABUTTING Trails (Option 5) approach.





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HAPPY MARCH BREAK TO ALL STUDENTS!



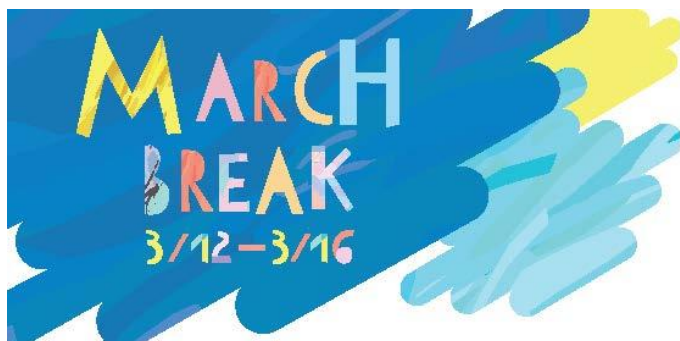
There are many activities planned throughout the province for March Break 2018. [Have a look!](#)

The Sackville Public Library has many programs available during March Break as well. [Check it out here.](#)

Springfield Lake Recreation Centre has a [March Break Spaceship Camp](#) from March 12th to the 16th.

Beaver Bank Kinsac Community Centre also has some [fun activities](#) planned during March Break. Have a look at their [events calendar](#).

Enjoy your break from school and have fun!



SOLAR CITY PROGRAM



[The Solar City Program](#) offers HRM property owners access to innovative solar energy options which can be financed through a Solar Collector Account with the Halifax Regional Municipality. The program is open to: residential property owners, non-profit organizations, places of worship, co-operatives, and charities.

Property owners have the option of installing three types of solar technologies (photovoltaic, hot air, and hot water). Depending on the site, an owner may benefit from one technology over another or a hybrid option. Solar City encourages the industry to improve existing programs and offerings by providing property owners the option to finance the installation with the municipality's low-interest Local Improvement Charge (LIC) in addition to any available rebates or other incentives.

Regional Council requires that the program be cost neutral to the taxpayer (non-participants of the program); therefore, the financing rate will be set at 4.75%, a 1% increase from 3.75% during the pilot project, to cover the administrative cost of the program.



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One example of a solar powered facility in District 14 is the Beaver Bank Community Centre (Brown Hall). This past summer, the BBCC (Brown Hall) signed up for the Solar City Program with hopes of reducing its carbon footprint and saving on utility bills.

After consultations with the Solar City Officer, the BBCC (Brown Hall) opted to install a 30-panel solar electric system. The system is expected to produce just over 12,000 kWh of solar energy annually with excess electricity being sold to Nova Scotia Power under the Enhanced Net Metering program.

In February, results showed that BBCC (Brown Hall) is the largest power producer in the Solar City program. Proof that their investment is already paying off. With an estimated system lifespan of 30 years or more, BBCC (Brown Hall) is leading the way on green energy in our community.

Congratulations to all involved!

For more information, please contact [the Solar City Program](#) Office by calling: 902.490.6821.



HOMELESSNESS AND HUNGER FORUM HELD IN SACKVILLE



Thank you to the Rotary Club of Sackville and Area for organizing the Homelessness and Hunger panel held on January 30th. Over 20 community agencies / groups were invited to the event with the following three groups presenting: Beacon House Food Bank, the Community Health Team and the Sackville Public Library.

Rev. Ross Bartlett, Secretary of the Rotary Club and one of the Organizers for the forum, explained in a recent interview by Yvette d'Entremont, with METRO HALIFAX that: *"It's the beginning of a conversation, and we believe that if we put people with the similar passions to care in the same room and spark the conversation, then only good things can result."*

The brilliance of bringing various groups together to discuss a common issue is the resulting "To Do" list. Top of the "To Do" list resulting from the recent forum, is to address the lack of emergency shelters in the Sackville / Beaver Bank areas. With a combined population of 70,000, it is surprising that there



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are no emergency shelters in the Lower / Middle / Upper Sackville / Lucasville / Beaver Bank / Kinsac area. This panel will hopefully shed much needed light on the issue and, encourage projects to address the lack of emergency shelters for residents experiencing temporary need for shelter or the more long-term issue of affordable housing.

My wish is that we continue the discussion and find solutions to these issues for the benefit of residents in their time of need.



HAPPY SAINT PATRICK'S DAY!



FREE LEADERSHIP COURSE AT SACKVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY



Step Up to Leadership Spring 2018 Course

Free nine-week leadership development program for volunteers

Captain Spry Community Centre, Spryfield
Tuesdays starting Mar. 20 from 6:30 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Fenerty Room, Sackville Public Library
Wednesdays starting Mar. 21 from 6:30 p.m. – 9 p.m.

To register, call 902.490.4865 or email hirtled@halifax.ca.

HALIFAX halifax.ca/volunteerservices

I am excited to share the news that HRM's Parks & Recreation department is hosting *Step Up to Leadership*, a free nine-week course for residents to develop their leadership skills and build strong communities. There are two sessions taking place this year; one at *Captain William Spry Community Centre* (beginning March 20) and one at the **Sackville Public Library** (beginning March 21).

To register, call 902.490.4865 or email hirtled@halifax.ca.





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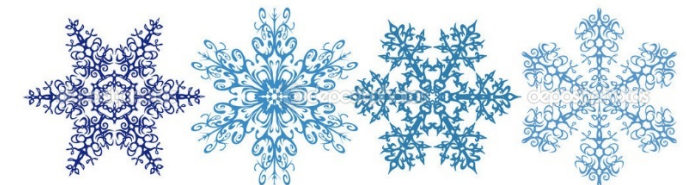
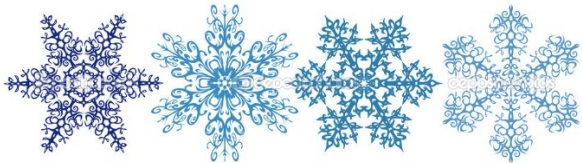
SACKVILLE SNOW DAYS FUN



With Councillor Steve Craig & Heather Coffin at the Sackville Heights Community Centre.



Serving our community at the Sackville Snow Days Community Tea and sharing a laugh with Debbie Adams.



We had perfect weather for the Sackville Snow Days Parade.



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PERRY BELLEGARDE, NATIONAL CHIEF OF THE ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS, AND I ON HIS RECENT VISIT TO CITY HALL



It was an honour to meet National Chief Perry Bellegarde on his recent visit to City Hall.

Chief Bellegarde has noted that: *“The Assembly of First Nations is at a pivotal point in its history. The AFN must be relevant, responsive and respectful because creating positive change for First Nations— in our homes, at our jobs and with our families—is essential. Our people need and deserve effective leadership that is based on extensive experience and an exceptional degree of focus. I am committed to delivering exactly that.”*

Learn more about National Chief Bellegarde at his website [Perry Bellegarde](#).

ANNUAL SPRING WEIGHT RESTRICTIONS

To minimize potential damage to municipal streets and roads, the Halifax Regional Municipality introduced its annual spring weight restrictions, at 12:01 a.m. on Monday, February 26th.

These restrictions are for heavy vehicles travelling on municipally maintained roads in the former Halifax County. The weight restrictions are expected to remain in place until May 11. However, the restrictions may be lifted earlier if the roads are stabilized before then. The municipality will issue a PSA should this occur.

The municipality’s spring weight restrictions are consistent with those of the Nova Scotia Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal (NSTIR).

Details of vehicle restrictions can be found online at: <http://novascotia.ca/tran/trucking/springweight.asp>.





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HAPPY EASTER!

Beaver Bank Kinsac Community Centre

Breakfast with the Easter Bunny!

March 24th

8:30-10:30am at the BBKCC!

\$4 for breakfast includes: Scrambled eggs, ham, tator tots, juice, coffee or tea!

Get your picture taken with the Easter Bunny & get some early Easter Treats!!

All ages welcome!



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DISTRICT 14
Middle/Upper Sackville Beaver Bank - Lucasville

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HALIFAX halifax.ca 311

I currently serve on the following Boards and Committees along with Halifax Regional Council and the North West Community Council:

- Appeals Standing Committee
- Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee
- Halifax Regional Library Board
- Accessibility Advisory Committee
- North West Planning Advisory Committee
- Destination Halifax
- Halifax Water
- Diverse Voices