



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

## WELCOME JANUARY!



What is more exciting than the beginning of a brand-new year! A fresh start and a time to perhaps cross a few more items off your bucket list – like actively participating

in the municipal budget process – WHOOP! WHOOP!

Included in this newsletter are updates on the Housing and Homelessness initiative, the Lucasville Greenway and Traffic Calming in various areas such as Viscount Run/Lake Ridge Crescent, Designated Smoking Areas plus much more!

Happy New Year one and all and remember, the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of each month I will be 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!

## BUDGET 2019 / 20



Yes, it's decision making time regarding our 2019/20 municipal operating and capital budgets.

The challenge facing staff and Council is how to continue providing programs and services without raising taxes. This year, a tax increase of 1.9% to 2.9% is inevitable due to the rising cost of fuel, essential services such as Police and Fire and commitments to recent contract negotiations.

Please tune in to the [Committee of the Whole](#) (COW) discussions on the 2019/20 operating and capital budgets and have your say on how your tax dollars will be allocated! The [schedule](#) of meetings is subject to change so please check regularly – the first meeting in 2019 will be on January 16<sup>th</sup> starting at 9:30 a.m.



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### HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS MIDDLE / UPPER SACKVILLE, BEAVER BANK, LUCASVILLE



I met with Division Chief of Emergency Management, Ericka Fleck, along with Councillor Steve Craig to discuss what can be done to address the issue of a local emergency /

warming shelter. I also attended meetings on the issue of homelessness in the Lower, Middle and Upper Sackville, Beaver Bank and Lucasville communities.

HRM has taken action to address some concerns of residents “*who live with poverty’s grinding reality*” by providing low income Halifax Transit [passes](#); implementing the hugely successful [Mobile Food Markets](#); as well as partnering with [United Way](#) to develop poverty solutions as outlined in the “*Building Poverty Solutions: Ideas for Action Report*”, and the Housing and Homelessness Partnership. As noted by Mayor Savage in his recent State of the Municipality Address, a great deal more is needed such as “... *monumental shifts in programs and policies so every child can grow up in a safe, affordable neighbourhood with equal access to opportunity. I encourage you to have a look at the [Building Poverty Solutions](#) work and consider where you can pitch-in to make sustained progress in our fight to eliminate poverty and increase dignity.*”

The mandate of the [Housing & Homelessness Partnership](#), is the goal of ending homelessness in Halifax. The Partnership’s website has information on the Housing First Project and a link to their 5-year strategic plan. The targets of the strategic plan were approved by Council on December 6, 2016. Work is on-going on density bonusing, inclusionary zoning, policy and regulatory barriers and other work exploring the municipality’s role in encouraging more affordable housing units.

I will continue to champion this issue as we do need to find solutions for services within our communities rather than continue to send residents downtown for services we need to be providing them in their home-community.



**5<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL  
SACKVILLE  
SNOW DAYS  
FEBRUARY 15<sup>TH</sup>  
– 18<sup>TH</sup>, 2019**





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### LUCASVILLE GREENWAY UPDATE



Soon Regional Council will be discussing possible funding for the active transportation trail for the Lucasville Road area during the 2019/20 budget sessions. The trail design will include consultation with the Halifax Regional Water Commission (HRWC) regarding the water main infrastructure project they have planned for the Lucasville Road area.

HRWC staff have explained that their water main project is slated to go to tender early in the new year with an anticipated spring 2019 start date and late summer completion. The current limits of the work are between the Pockwock Transmission Main Corridor and Bryanston Road. The general alignment of the pipe will put it near or under the road edge. Prior to any work getting underway, Halifax Water will notify the community.

Halifax Water has been working with HRM Active Transportation staff sharing information to ensure that the pipe alignment does not impede future trail alignment and vice-versa.

### CONGRATULATIONS TO HOMETOWN HERO FRED DOLAN



Thanks to the quick-thinking Fred Dolan, young Luke Durling and his father David were alerted and saved from a house fire on November 24<sup>th</sup>. The fire, having started externally,

had gone unnoticed until Mr. Dolan happened by, called 911, alerted the family and got them out of the building in time. Unfortunately, most of the family's belongings were lost in the fire including Luke's hockey equipment.

On December 20<sup>th</sup>, the Halifax Professional Fire Fighters (IAFF Local 268) presented Fred Dolan with an award recognizing his bravery and community service. Mr. Dolan is the Assistant Hockey Coach with the Millwood High School Knights. Also in attendance at the award presentation were Chief Ken Stuebing, Halifax



Regional Fire and Emergency; Brendan Meagher, President – Halifax Professional Fire



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Fighters; Joe Triff, Vice-President - Halifax Professional Fire Fighters, Councillor Steve Craig and I.

All proceeds from the December 20<sup>th</sup> Chuck-A-Puck night went to the Durling family.

## COMMUNITY FUN AT THE SACKVILLE CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING 2018



Councillor Steve Craig and I with Luke Durling.



Councillor Steve Craig, Santa & I enjoy the festive event at Acadia Park

Congratulations Fred and thank-you!



### Think before you park

When and where you park this winter has a big impact on clearing streets and sidewalks. Please do your part.



Community enjoying the Sackville Tree Lighting festivities!



Councillor Steve Craig & I with MC Jamie Paterson at the Sackville Christmas Tree Lighting in Acadia Park.



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### NEW SACKVILLE YOUTH CENTRE - "THE DEN"



Happy to join Councillor Steve Craig, Trevor Sanipass and NDP Leader Gary Burrill for the opening of the new Sackville Youth Centre.

### MP DARRELL SAMSON JOINED US FOR BREAKFAST WITH SANTA AT THE BEAVER BANK KINSAC COMMUNITY CENTRE



### BEAVER BANK KINSAC FIRE ASSOCIATION – STATION 48



Thanks to everyone who contributed in any way to the "Fill a Port-a-Tank Food Drive" in support of Beacon House. The Beaver Bank

Awareness Association matched the donations with a \$500 cash donation. A total of 700 lbs of food and \$1,000 was raised. Your support is greatly appreciated.

### A BEAUTIFUL EVENING OF MUSIC AT THE COBEQUID FOUNDATION GIFT OF LIGHT



Councillor Steve Craig and I at the Cobequid Foundation's Gift of Light



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## LAKE DISTRICT RECREATION ASSOCIATION CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON



Councillor Steve Craig and I were honoured to be invited to participate in the Lake District Recreation Association's annual Christmas Luncheon.



Kelly and Geoff Regan also attended the Lake District Recreation Association's Christmas Luncheon.

## COUNCILLOR LISA BLACKBURN



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
- North West Planning Advisory Committee
- Discover Halifax
- Halifax Water Commission

