

# COUNCILLOR WAYE MASON

## HALIFAX SOUTH DOWNTOWN DISTRICT 7 NEWSLETTER



HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

SUMMER/FALL 2019

### DEAR RESIDENTS,

I hope you had an enjoyable summer, it is hard to believe that school is starting and students, both young and adult, are returning to our streets and sidewalks. Please remember - every corner is a crosswalk, even if no lines are painted. Plan for a little extra time to get to work or school in September, and keep an eye out for folks in the road. Let's keep our community safe.

This newsletter has articles about the upcoming **Centre Plan public hearing scheduled for September 17, 2019** (which I strongly urge all residents to be aware of, and talk to me if you have any concerns), the revisions and timelines for **Participatory Budgeting 2019**, a brief **update on Raymond Taavel Park**, and of course, my annual **Welcome Students open letter** to all our new and returning residents.

Please contact me if you have any municipal concerns, I'd love to hear from you! Thank you and take care,



### RAYMOND TAAVEL PARK

It was very moving to attend the opening of Raymond Taavel Park, formerly Inglis Street Park on July 22nd.

The Friends of Raymond Taavel Park and Halifax Pride held a candlelit vigil and dedication ceremony in honour of 2SLGBTQ+ community activist Raymond Taavel.

The park is intended to bring attention to the life and legacy of a dearly missed friend, activist, and fixture in the Halifax 2SLGBTQ+ community who was killed while trying to break up a fight over five years ago. I encourage everyone to take a trip down to this formerly underused space and take in and enjoy this peaceful park.



### ENEWS SIGNUP

In addition to this paper newsletter, I have been sending regular email updates approximately once a month for the last seven years.

This is the best way to keep up-to-date on what is happening in our District and in the Halifax area. Please visit [wayemason.ca/mailling-list](http://wayemason.ca/mailling-list) and enter your information. You will receive an email to confirm subscription, you must click on the link supplied. You can unsubscribe at anytime and email addresses will not be shared.

If you are aware of a community event or announcement and would like it included, please forward the information to my Coordinator Melody Campbell at [melody.campbell@halifax.ca](mailto:melody.campbell@halifax.ca) so I can include it in a future update.



**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.

# HALIFAX



## PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING 2019

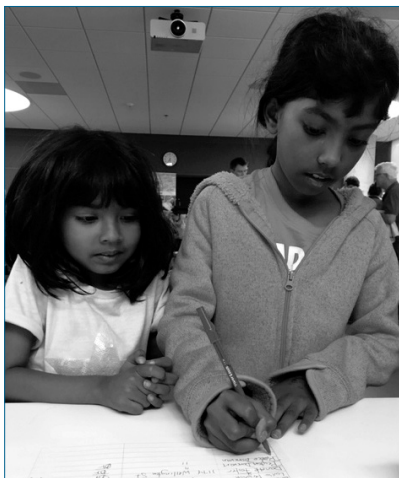
**REAL MONEY. REAL PROJECTS. REAL DECISIONS. BUILDING A GREAT COMMUNITY ONE GREAT IDEA AT A TIME.**

Each district has a budget of \$94,000 for a District Capital Fund for permanent projects in the community that provide widespread community benefit. For the last five years community members just like you have proposed projects, made recommendations on how to spend this money, and voted on who should be funded.

All residents of District 7 – including children – are invited to come and help choose projects that will help build a stronger community! We are practicing a different way to make decisions about how to spend public money in our neighbourhood.

- Do you live in District 7 Halifax South Downtown?
- Need funding for a project to support, enhance or build our community?
- Want to have a say in how this neighbourhood budget is spent?

**Come and help make these decisions! Vote takes place November 4, 2019**



Galiba and Unaiza take PB voting very seriously!

## WHAT HAS CHANGED IN 2019

Participatory Budgeting process has been moved to the fall this year.

In May I had a great meeting with a small but mighty crowd to discuss possible changes to the Participatory Budgeting program.

The goal is to encourage more small projects to be able to get funding, while making

sure schools and others can still get funding for needed play-ground and park improvements.

I also wanted to see if there was an appetite to set aside some money for smaller projects.



## PB PROGRAM CHANGES FOR 2019

- Big projects would be able to apply for \$15,000, and voters would have to vote for three large projects on their ballot.
- A small project category would be created for projects needing \$5,000 or less, and voters would ALSO have to vote for three small projects.
- \$75,000 will be distributed via the PB vote, leaving \$19,000 for small projects and unexpected projects that pop up mid-year, at the Councillor's discretion.

## ELIGIBILITY

- To be eligible for this program, you must be a not-for-profit community group or organization – or be partnered with one.
- You should know in advance that all HRM policies and guidelines must be met. There are a bunch of rules that help define what can and can't be funded.
- Organizations are eligible to receive funds from only one HRM grant program in any one fiscal year – Eg. Festivals and Events, Capital Grants, or Community Grants.
- Be sure to contact staff in advance to ensure your project is eligible and your form is complete.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

- September 16th, 6:30 – 7:30 pm is the Information Session at the Halifax Central Library, RBC Room.
- October 11th, 12:00 am is the Participatory Budgeting submission deadline
- November 4th, 5:45 – 8:00 pm is the Vote Night at the Halifax Central Library, Lindsay Children's Room.

**For more information on D7 Participatory Budgeting visit [wayemason.ca/pb](http://wayemason.ca/pb)**



# DISTRICT 7 NEWSLETTER

Summer/Fall 2019

# CENTRE PLAN

I am very pleased to let residents know that **Centre Plan Package A** passed 1st reading and is heading toward a public hearing **September 17th**.

While I, of course, am keeping an open mind as we approach the hearing, I want to say I am pleased that we have made it to this point, it was a long time coming!

As I said during both the 2012 and 2016 election, we need to make sure we get the right development in the right place, and I look forward to hearing from the public to see if this plan meets your expectations.

It is important that all residents know that this is a significant change in our land use, and if adopted, it will enable development on corridors and centres without further public hearings, much like the Downtown or HRM By Design plan did in 2009.

So take the time to look at the website and understand how this will change our neighbourhoods, and how it won't. Contact me if you have questions or concerns or support the direction of the plan, and take a moment to participate in the public hearing process.

**PUBLIC HEARING: CENTRE PLAN**  
Tuesday September 17, 2019, 6pm  
Halifax City Hall 1841 Argyle Street

## 2019 CITIZENSHIP AWARDS

On May 14th, the 2019 Citizenship Awards were presented at City Hall to students who exemplify dedication and commitment to improving the quality of life in our schools and in our communities.

I would like to extend my sincere congratulations to all Award recipients!

Thank you for your dedication and commitment to our community.



Hannah Gogan  
Sacred Heart School of Halifax



Jack Baker  
Halifax Central Junior High School



William Cooper  
Fountain Academy of the Sacred Heart



Lilian Hougan-Veenema  
Shambhala School



Edie VanAmburg  
Gorsebrook Junior High School

## CONTACT US

### 311 CONTACT CENTRE

Call 311 or visit [halifax.ca/311](http://halifax.ca/311) to report a municipal issue.

The contact centre is open 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. Monday to Friday and 9 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday except Christmas & New Year's Day.

### CALL MY OFFICE

Contact the Council Support Office call 902.490.2012 or email [melody.campbell@halifax.ca](mailto:melody.campbell@halifax.ca)

### CONTACT ME

PO Box 1749  
Halifax, NS B3J 3A5  
902.490.8462  
[waye.mason@halifax.ca](mailto:waye.mason@halifax.ca)

### STAY CONNECTED

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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  
Councillor Support Office: 902.490.4050





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# WELCOME STUDENTS! TAKE A MINUTE TO READ THESE POINTERS TO HELP YOU ENJOY HALIFAX



### WELCOME, WELCOME, WELCOME TO DISTRICT 7!

Our community is a very diverse mix of students, renters, long-term homeowners, businesses and more. Our diversity is what makes our neighbourhood great. We're glad you're here! This area is a real mixed bag of housing, with apartments mixed in with other homes. There is no "student ghetto" in Halifax - you are as likely to live next to your professor as to an apartment of undergrads.

This can create challenges, as your neighbours could be emergency room doctors, retired people, seniors, preschool and school age children, babies or professionals of all kinds.

Sometimes students are new renters and just don't know they have legal obligations as tenants and neighbours. We know most students just want to get along with their neighbours. Here are three things that seem to cause most of the friction: noise, booze & mess.

**Noise:** You have the right to enjoy yourself with friends while respecting that your neighbours have the right to a good night's sleep. You can be **fined if your party or gathering "unreasonably disturbs or tends to disturb the peace and tranquillity of a neighbourhood" starting at \$463.95 and rising to \$1,268.95** for a third offence. Keep noise to a reasonable level. Tickets can be given any time of day. Remember if your neighbour has kids, they are going to expect some late night quiet!

**Booze:** The drinking age in Nova Scotia is 19. **Underage drinking can result in a fine of \$463.95.** Same goes with walking across the street with an open drink. Being intoxicated in a public place can result in a **fine of between**

**\$130.45 and \$463.95.** Basically, don't walk around drunk with open liquor (no, not even on St. Patrick's Day)! You can have fun but make sure that it doesn't impact others enjoyment of their neighbourhood.

**Mess:** This is often a result of a party. Clean up any litter. You would be surprised how many neighbours ask me to remind students not to go to the bathroom outside. Nothing undermines the reputation and dignity of students in general like public urination. Pick up any garbage after a party and see if your neighbours have any concerns, and they are more likely to cut you some slack. HRM can order a property cleaned up and if the work is not done, HRM will clean the property, and bill the property owner, which will upset your landlord! Make sure you put the right stuff out Monday morning, visit <http://www.halifax.ca/recycle/area1and2.php> (we live in area 1). **Fines are \$463.95.**

**Final Words:** Halifax is your home now too, and we are glad you are here! Nobody wants to fine you, or call bylaw on you, or call the police, but we all have to share this space. Please, respect your neighbours and the community. If your actions or actions of your guests unreasonably and repeatedly disturb the neighbourhood, people will call the city, the police, the universities, and your landlord.

The responsibility for a great neighbourhood belongs to everyone. Halifax is one of the best cities in Canada, and it takes all of us working together to make it so. This is my seventh back to school message since being elected, and I do want to thank you all as the last few years have actually been some of the smoothest back to schools in decades.