

## Together We Can Build Safe, Healthy, Active Communities

#### **WELCOME JANUARY**

Welcome January and a new decade. The new year is a great time to reflect on the successes and challenges of the past year and to think about our future goals. I'm so proud of the things we have accomplished as a Regional Council – Our municipality is growing steadily, breaking population records for the last three years. We have more university graduates and young people staying here in HRM, increased immigration and diversity and steady construction growth. Our Port and Airport continue to be successful economic generators and both Downtown Dartmouth and Downtown Halifax are thriving. We have so much to look forward to in this new year! I hope you will continue to partner with me in building safe, healthy and active communities across HRM.

#### **BIENVENUE JANVIER**

Bienvenue au mois de janvier et à la nouvelle décennie. La nouvelle année est un excellent moment pour réfléchir aux réussites et aux défis de l'année qui vient de s'écouler et pour réfléchir à nos objectifs pour l'avenir. Je suis tellement fier de ce que nous avons accomplis en tant que conseil régional - Notre municipalité croît régulièrement, battant les records démographiques depuis trois ans. Nous avons davantage de diplômés universitaires et de jeunes qui restent ici dans la MRH, davantage d'immigration et de diversité et une croissance constante de la construction. Notre port et notre aéroport continuent d'être des générateurs économiques efficaces et le centre-ville de Dartmouth ainsi que le centre-ville d'Halifax sont en plein essor. Nous avons tant à anticiper dans cette nouvelle année! J'espère que vous continuerez de vous associer à moi pour construire des communautés sécuritaires, saines et actives dans l'ensemble de la MRH.







## **A YEAR IN REVIEW**

What a great year 2019 has been, I really enjoyed my time as Deputy Mayor where I was privileged to represent the Mayor at lots of events and play a role in promoting our Municipality at home and to representatives from around the world. I was particularly challenged while taking part in the Barho Family memorial and funeral service where our amazing community came together across religious and cultural lines to support a grieving mother. I was also proud to take part in the Hurricane Dorian response in the fall, where I got to see first hand how far we have come since Hurricane Juan and witness the excellence of the emergency operations teams who respond to these weather events.

Your Regional Council have been working hard over the last year to improve service delivery, promote economic and social development, foster healthy and engaged communities and improve transportation. We are making transportation more accessible by expanding our Low Income Bus Pass program that provides monthly transit passes 50% off for residents who qualify. We have also made major improvements to our Access-A-Bus program with the Access-A-Bus Continuous Improvement Service Plan. This plan includes investments in new technology, achieving a more adaptable service and the introduction of integrated trips, all contributing to a more efficient, accessible service for passengers. In November, 19 adjustments were made to transit routes through Burnside providing more effective and expanded service. We were even able to support the Boys and Girls Club by donating one of our used Access-A-Buses. We are continuing to combat food insecurity by supporting the Mobile Food Market that provides affordable healthy foods in neighborhoods that may not have access to a grocery store and are investing in recreation opportunities like the Shubie Park trails, Cyril Smith Park, installing new pickle ball courts in Morash Park and collaborating to clean up Farrell Street Park and make it a safe place for families to gather. We celebrated the holidays in our community at the East

Dartmouth Tree Lighting and Shubie Park Tree Lighting in December, and enjoyed gathering for the annual East Dartmouth Community Barbecue and the opening celebration for the Farrell Street Park.

<u>The Dartmouth North Outdoor Library</u> continues to thrive and we are supporting projects like the Aberdeen Park Playbox, the <u>Cancer Survivors Daffodil Garden</u>, the <u>Dartmouth Family Centre</u> barn upgrade and community garden, the <u>LakeCity Employement Services Association</u> equipment upgrade and much more with our District Capital Fund:

Organization	Grant
	Amount
City Centre Ministry – Phone System	\$500
Upgrade	
Dartmouth Adult Services Centre	\$1,800
Association – Van for Home Service	
Nova Scotia program	
Camp Courage – First Responders	\$1,380
Society – New computer	
Aberdeen Park Play Box	\$1,949
Dartmouth Shelter Society – equipment	\$2,665.68
for shelter	
Halifax Transition House – new facility	\$10,000
John Martin Jr. High SAC- security	\$5 <i>,</i> 000
cameras	
Daffodil Cancer Survivors Garden	\$2,000
Nova Scotia Association of Turtle	\$312
Patrollers – Outdoor tools	
Boys and Girls Club of Greater Halifax –	\$2,800
Air conditioning, tables, chairs and toys	
Dartmouth Family Centre – barn	\$5,200
upgrade and community garden supplies	
Holy Trinity Emanuel Anglican Church	\$5,000
Accessibility Funding Committee –	
accessible washroom and wheelchair lift	
LakeCity Employment Services	\$10,000
Association - equipment	
East Dartmouth Community Centre – sound system	\$300
Downtown Dartmouth Business	\$2,500
Commission Banners	<i>γ</i> 2,300





Boys and Girls Club of Greater Halifax –	\$3,000
Bus Repairs	
Ian Forsyth Elementary School –	\$202
Outdoor Flag Pole	
Total:	\$54,609

I was honoured to attend the Zero Waste Conference in Vancouver for 2019 to learn more about sustainable practices from across the country. We are now advocating on a municipal level for Extended Producer Responsibility and banning single use plastics and are supporting the protection of **Blue Mountain Birch Cove** Lakes and the Purcell's Cove Backlands.

In 2019, we also received the Wortley Report, an independent report on Police Street Checks, that revealed that African Nova Scotian residents were six times more likely to be stopped and guestioned for random street checks and were also more likely to be charged with crimes. In November 2019, Chief Dan Kinsella offered an apology to the African Nova Scotian community, the Department of Justice has declared a moratorium on street checks and Police have committed to deleting 14 years worth of street check data by December 2020 unless it is involved in an investigation or court case.

Finally, we are expanding our efforts to truly value diversity and inclusion in our municipality. I'm particularly proud of the initiatives to include our Francaphone community by having a designated staff member in our Diversity and Inclusion office, translating our Public Service Announcements and investing in bilingual signage.



A great time at the Alderney Market. Hanging out with Liam and Robert from Lake Citv Woodworkers

## THE YEAR AHEAD

We have come a long way in 2019, but there is still so much growth and opportunity waiting for us in 2020. Large developments like Shannon Park and the Port Wallace development will continue to advance this year. We are also investing in a utility corridor that will serve the increased density in a new Port Wallace development. I'm looking forward to seeing more progress on plans for the Burnside Connector and Transit staff are planning to engage the public about increasing connectivity within Burnside and Dartmouth Crossing. I'm looking forward to hosting the North American Indigenous Games and World Women's Hockey Tournament and showing off our great Municipality to all of the athletes and visitors who will attend. I hope to continue to see improvement in providing more reliable Access-a-Bus service, implementing the Wortley Report recommendations, supporting Extended Producer Responsibility and protecting our Dartmouth lakes. We will be receiving the HalifACT2050 report as well as the Conrwallis Task Force recommendations this year. These reports will have a huge impact on how we commemorate our history and how we will move forward in improving our environmental impact. I am also looking forward to investigating the purchase of electric or hydro buses to add to our fleet and a report on zoning and regulations for boat houses. We will continue to invest in public safety by completing more traffic calming on problem streets including narrowing the four way stop at the Montebello/Caledonia/Breeze intersection and by working towards an active transportation corridor in the Main St. and Lakecrest area. I hope to invest in the Dartmouth North Community Food Centre and Dartmouth Family Centre to support their plans to come together under one roof and better serve our community. More upgrades are coming for the Dartmouth North Public Library and we are hoping to invest in more public art particularly in the Dartmouth North area. It's an exciting time to be a part of the great things happening here in HRM!





## **STADIUM UPDATE**

At the December 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of Regional Council, we voted to provide a one-time contribution of \$20M towards the construction of a community stadium to be payable upon completion of construction. The agreement is subject to the selection of a site with optimal access to major transportation routes and necessary infrastructure acceptable to Regional Council. There is no support for a stadium on the Shannon Park Lands.

Potential sites that would meet this criteria are in Woodside (land is owned by the Province) and Dartmouth Crossing (privately owned.) The site must be approved by Regional Council in order for the contribution agreement to take effect.

The \$20M would come from our Strategic Capital Reserve Fund. Using funds from the reserve will have no impact on the tax rate. In the past, some of the projects funded from the reserve were the Dartmouth 4-pad, Dartmouth Sportsplex and the Cogswell Interchange (underway). Potential future use of the reserve funds are for a performing arts centre, stadium, police station or fire services training centre. Using funds from this reserve will not impact any other projects. Property taxes from this new building will eventually recoup the cost of this contribution.

This vote does not confirm we will be spending the \$20M. The vote simply means we will continue to engage with Schooner Sports and Entertainment (SSE) in finding an option that makes sense for the municipality. SSE may not be interested in meeting the terms of a different location or in the onetime lump amount. There will still be a final vote to confirm the commitment.

SSE will also be asking the Province to contribute to this project and have requested that they allow an increase on the hotel levy tax and add a levy to the rental car business. However, the Province may not be interested in participating. They could decide to give the land in Woodside as their contribution or not participate in any way which will kill the deal.

Many residents that I have heard from that are not in favour of the stadium said that the \$20M should be spent on schools, hospitals, doctors or affordable housing. None of these items would be under our jurisdiction as a municipality, they are all the responsibility of the Province.

My interest is not the CFL. My interest is another facility that we can add to our growing municipality. I believe investing \$20M in an \$100M asset is worth it for the opportunities it brings. A stadium would allow us to host numerous National and International events that we cannot host now. These events will bring many visitors to our municipality. The stadium's operating model also proposes to have year round programming facilitated by Sport Nova Scotia for youth and provincial sports organizations at no or minimal cost. HRM will also have access to the facility for programming. The stadium would have a dome erected during the winter months. In the past 10 years, we have spent over \$280M on recreation facilities, this \$20M could provide more opportunities for our municipality to grow.

Given Regional Council's decision, Canada Lands will now be working with HRM staff toward approval of the original master plan for Shannon Park that was developed with significant public engagement and submitted to the municipality in 2016. Canada Lands Company and the Millbrook First Nation continue to work collaboratively to develop their adjacent properties at Shannon Park.



Congratulations Graduates!





HARBOURVIEW - BURNSIDE - DARTMOUTH EAST

## **BEYOND 3 R'S RECOGNITION PROGRAM**

The Halifax Regional Municipality is pleased to launch 'Beyond 3 Rs', a new recognition program that will highlight businesses, organizations, and groups who are making a positive impact on the community through their waste management systems.

Residents can <u>nominate</u> an organization that is going above and beyond in this area and the selected businesses will be highlighted on our <u>Halifax Recycles</u> <u>Facebook page</u> and website. The municipality will recognize a business every quarter who exemplifies waste reduction, innovation, continuous improvement and community impact beyond the program. For more information or to nominate a deserving business, visit our <u>website</u>.







Councillor Tony Mancini is hosting discussions on community engagement and public safety. Join us, meet HRP's Chief Dan Kinsella, connect with your local police officers and learn about community response, traffic and crime reduction.

**ΗΛLIFΛΧ** 



Thursday, January 30 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Woodlawn United Church 54 Woodlawn Road, Dartmouth



#### **Green Tip**



Did you know ¼ - ½ cup of lemon juice can whiten your clothes in the wash? Forgo the production, packaging and compounds that don't decompose in bleach by using lemon juice instead. You can find more information here.

## HALIFAX TRANSIT RECRUITMENT

Halifax Transit is recruiting for bus operators. Those interested are encouraged to attend one of the following information sessions:

Where: Halifax Central Library, 5440 Spring Garden Road When: Sunday, Jan. 12, 1 p.m.

Where: Black Cultural Centre for Nova Scotia, 10 Cherry Brook Road When: Tuesday, Jan. 14, 6:30 p.m.

Where: Alderney Gate Library, 60 Alderney Drive When: Thursday, Jan. 20, noon

Submissions will be <u>accepted online</u> from January 7<sup>th</sup> onward but to be included in the first testing session held February 1<sup>st</sup> you must apply by January 21<sup>st</sup>.

For information on other employment opportunities with Halifax Transit, visit our website. halifax.ca/employment





#### WINTER PREPARATION

We've braved our first few winter events and it's more important than ever to be prepared for whatever the season may bring.

#### Think before your park

When and where you park in the winter can have a big impact on clearing streets and sidewalks during a winter storm.

Residents are reminded to secure off-street parking for the winter months so that snow plow operators can safely and efficiently clear the streets and sidewalks. As in previous seasons, the overnight winter parking ban will be in place from Dec. 15, 2019 to Mar. 31, 2020. The ban will be enforced between 1:00 a.m. - 6:00 a.m., during declared weather events and extended clearing operations. Residents are also reminded that in addition to the overnight parking ban, Section 139 of the <u>Nova</u> <u>Scotia Motor Vehicle Act</u> states that tickets can be issued and vehicles can be towed any time, day or night, if they are parked in a manner that interferes with snow clearing.

The easiest way to know when the parking ban will be enforced is to sign up for the municipality's alert system, <u>hfxALERT</u>.

#### Do your part

Residents are asked to assist in clearing efforts by proactively removing any obstructions or hazards from their property that may interfere with the ability of crews to properly clear streets and sidewalks of snow and ice. For tips on how to protect your property and ensure clearing efforts go as safely and smoothly as possible this season visit our <u>website</u>.

For the most up to date information before, during and after a winter storm, visit <u>Halifax.ca/snow</u> and follow us on Twitter <u>@hfxgov</u>.

For minor (0-5 cm) and average (5-15 cm) winter events, snow clearing updates will be posted three times a day: 7:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m., 4:00 p.m. on the <u>service updates page</u> and via Twitter\_For major events (15+ cm accumulation), updates will be posted four times a day: 7:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m., 4:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.

#### **Winter Driving**

Police are also advising motorists to adjust their driving to the conditions. Winter driving conditions can vary dramatically in our region and require the driver's full attention. Road conditions often warrant a significantly slower speed than what is posted. Remember to allow extra time for your commute so you don't feel that you have to rush. When the roads are slippery, a vehicle's stopping distance increases so allow extra space between you and the road user ahead.

Before heading out, take the time to clear all the snow off your entire vehicle, including the roof. It can be very dangerous to other road users, especially if it blows off in slabs. Ensure that all windows are clear of both ice and snow. This not only increases your visibility but is required by law.

Motorists are asked to turn on their headlights and watch for pedestrians, cyclists and other vehicles. Pedestrians are reminded to make eye contact with drivers and wait until the vehicle comes to a complete stop before attempting to cross the road.

If we work together we can all be better prepared for whatever the season may bring.



Boys and Girls Club Breakfast with Santa

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HARBOURVIEW - BURNSIDE - DARTMOUTH EAST



## **VEHICLE PEDESTRIAN COLLISION REPORTS**

Halifax Regional Police (HRP) and Halifax District RCMP release a monthly vehicle/pedestrian collision report to provide police and citizens with more contextual information on this issue.

A total of 212 vehicle/pedestrian/bicycle collisions have been reported from January to November 2019 in Halifax Regional Municipality. 17 incidents were reported in October and 20 were reported in November.



Amazing NS Power Employees prepared and served turkey dinner at John Martin Jr. High



Gerry White at the New Years Levee

## SHARED MICROMIBILITY

Shared micromobility is a service that provides access to personal vehicles for transportation purposes, such as bike and e-scooter share systems.

We recently completed a survey on this topic after a <u>2019 motion</u> from the Transportation Standing Committee as well as Action 88 of the <u>Integrated</u> <u>Mobility Plan</u> which directs municipal staff to conduct a bike share feasibility study.

You can find out more about Shared Micromobility and the next steps in a feasibility study <u>here.</u>



Volunteer Firefighter Graduation





HARBOURVIEW - BURNSIDE - DARTMOUTH EAST

## TRAFFIC LIGHT OUTAGES



T'is the season! If you find your self at a failed traffic light, treat it as a four-way stop.

The car that arrives first goes first. If two cars arrive at the same time, the car on the right goes first.



It was a pleasure to chat with Archbishop Anthony Mancini at the St. Mary's Basilica for their New Year's Levee.

## WATTPAD HEADQUARTERS

Wattpad is a global multi-platform entertainment company and they are planning to open their second headquarters here in Halifax thanks to The Halifax Partnership, NSBI, Volta, and other partners who successfully pitched Halifax's talent, location, cost and innovation value proposition. Wattpad will be opening their Halifax headquarters in early 2020 at Volta, in the heart of the Innovation District. Wattpad second headquarters has the potential to create hundreds of highly-skilled jobs in Halifax over the next few years, and to support the growth of start-ups and scale-ups and the city's innovation ecosystem.

Is becoming more involved in your community one of your New Year's Resolutions? If so, Immigrant Services Association of Nova Scotia (ISANS) has a volunteer opportunity for you! Become a Canada Connects Volunteer and help us build a community where all can belong and grow. For more information contact <u>Delaine</u>.



Special visitors to City Hall - Rori and Georgia

## **OUTDOOR ICE SKATING SAFETY**

The Halifax Regional Municipality and Halifax Regional Fire & Emergency are urging residents to make sure ice is thick enough before venturing out for a skate or hike on lakes across the region.

Temperatures often drop and increase variably from day to day, which can impact ice thickness. Although the municipality has an ice thickness testing program each winter, residents are always urged to assess each situation and conditions before stepping onto frozen water.

The Canadian Red Cross recommends that ice be at least 15 centimeters thick for individual skating, and at least 20 centimeters thick for group skating. Extreme caution is advised in areas where streams flow into and out of lakes. It is also important to note that ice conditions may vary over the entire surface of lakes and are subject to change with weather conditions.

During the winter months, ice thickness reports for more than 70 lakes tested by the municipality are available to the public <u>online</u>, or by calling 902-490-3577. Reports are updated weekly, pending weather conditions.





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HARBOURVIEW - BURNSIDE - DARTMOUTH EAST



New berm around the playset at Belvedere Park replacing the old rotten wood framing.

#### **NEW DATA SETS IN OPEN DATA CATELOGUE**

The Halifax Regional Municipality has released 24 new datasets as part of an ongoing commitment to providing public access to data created and managed by the municipality. The majority of these datasets support the Halifax Green Network Plan and the recently approved Centre Plan (Package A). Data on accessible parking spots as well as an update to municipal tax rates, to include 2019 rates, has also been released.

The addition of these 24 sets brings the total number of open data datasets to 115. A wide range of data can be sourced for free through the catalogue, such as transit routes and schedule data, solid waste collection schedules, and area rates. The open data initiative was first launched in early 2014 to help improve resident engagement and enhance transparency on municipal data. For more information on the municipality's open data program, and to access all the data sets, please visit our <u>website</u>.



Serving at the Dartmouth North Community Food Centre's Giving Tuesday Brunch.

## **HOLIDAY CHECK POINT SUCCESS**

The Halifax Regional Police (HRP) Traffic Unit's 2019 Operation Christmas campaign, an annual initiative that aims to fight against impaired driving and encourages motorists to practice safe winter driving was a huge success.

Throughout December, HRP conducted several checkpoints to stop impaired driving. These efforts contributed to safer roadways for citizens and reinforced to drivers that there is no tolerance for impaired driving. Operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs puts everyone in danger. Prevention through solid detection helps to save lives. Throughout the campaign, officers laid the following charges:

- 48 impaired driving charges
- 31 impaired, 7-day provincial suspensions
- 3 dangerous operation of a motor vehicle
- 6 stunting charges where vehicles were caught travelling more than 50 km/h over the speed limit

The Halifax Regional Police charged 47 drivers with impaired related offences during the month of November.

We continue to be encouraged by the number of citizens helping to play a role in community safety. If you have information on an impaired driver, please call 9-1-1.





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HARBOURVIEW - BURNSIDE - DARTMOUTH EAST

## MOBILE FOOD MARKET EAST DARTMOUTH

#### \$10 PRODUCE PACKS (SUBSIDIES MAY BE AVAILABLE) Get staple fruits & vegetables every second Wednesday.

Get staple fruits & vegetables every second Wednesday Place your order, beginning on October 23, 2019.



## POLICE COMPLIMENTS OR COMPLAINTS

Do you have concerns about the actions, service or conduct of Police in the Halifax Regional Municipality?

Complaints can be filed with the HRP Professional Standards office at 902-490-4127 or <u>hrpprofstand@halifax.ca</u> or through the <u>Office of the</u> <u>Police Complaints Commissioner</u>.

Complaints must be made within six months of an incident. You can also report positive stories about your interactions with Police to our professional standards team.

More details can be found here.

## HURRICANE DORIAN PROPERTY DAMAGE RELIEF PROGRAM

The Government of Nova Scotia has opened a disaster financial assistance program to help those who sustained property damage from Hurricane Dorian.

The program will help individuals, small businesses and not-for-profit organizations that have uninsurable claims and municipalities with uninsured losses.

Details on the program and where to apply can be found <u>here</u>.

COUNCILLOR TONY MANCINI DISTRICT 6 HARBOURVIEW – BURNSIDE – DARTMOUTH EAST (902)–292-4823 Tony.Mancini@halifax.ca PO BOX 1749 HALIFAX, NS B3J 3A5 www.halifax.ca

#### **Currently serving on:**

Harbour East Marine Drive Community Council Board of Police Commissioners Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee Executive Standing Committee Special Events Advisory Committee Shubenacadie Canal Commission Liaison to the HRM Acadian Francophone Community SAC for Prince Andrew High School NS Solid Waste Resource Management

