

WELCOME APRIL!



April 1st is known as April Fool's Day when traditionally, good natured pranks are

pulled on friends and family. Lately, due to the global pandemic, there has not been much humour as we deal with increased efforts to stop the spread of COVID-19. However, it is encouraging to see - via social media - the creativity of how people are coping with being at home: a makeshift treadmill from a little liquid soap and water on a kitchen floor to a sock puppet used to play a PacMan type game. Thank you for all you are doing to help eliminate this pandemic and for keeping spirits high.

I look forward to chatting with you at the next Community Drop-In session hopefully in May, at the Chocolate Lake Recreation Centre.

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HALIFAX WEST ARMDALE

APRIL MEETINGS

In the interest of public health and safety, all meetings have been cancelled for the month of April to help stop the spread of COVID-19.



HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL SESSIONS

Virtual Special Regional Council meetings will be held on April 2, April 14 and April 28 at 1:00 pm. The purpose of these special meetings is to deal with matters as determined by the CAO and Mayor.

The regularly scheduled meetings on April 7 and 21 have been cancelled.

The special meeting agenda and reports for April 2 will be posted on Halifax.ca on Tuesday March 31 at 1:00 pm.

BAYERS ROAD & CONNAUGHT AVENUE – WASTEWATER SYSTEM MAINTENANCE

Halifax Water has contracted Eastern Trenches to undertake wastewater system maintenance using innovative cure-in-place-pipe (CIPP) trenchless lining technology.

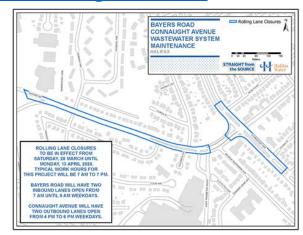
Work will take place Saturday, March 28th - Monday, April 13th. Work hours will be 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM, Monday to Friday, with extended evening hours as required.

Bayers Road will maintain two open inbound lanes from 7:00 AM - 9:00 AM. There will be rolling lane drops on sections of Bayers Road and Connaught Avenue (see work zone map below).

Connaught Avenue will maintain two open outbound lanes from 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM.

If you have questions or require further information, please contact Halifax Water at 902.420.9287 or email:

customercare@halifaxwater.ca.



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CENTRE PLAN PACKAGE B

Due to provincial direction to limit public gatherings to help stop the spread of COVID-19, all Centre Plan meetings are **cancelled** until further notice.

Public comments on <u>Centre Plan Package B</u> can continue to be submitted to <u>planhrm@halifax.ca</u>. Please watch for additional online engagements opportunities in the near future.

View Centre Plan - Package B online.

There are fact sheets outlining the various themes in Centre Plan Package B that you may view on the municipal website: themes such as Water Access, Parks & Community Facility Designation, Heritage Conservation and more!

Water Access



WHAT IS THE WATER ACCESS ZONE?

WHAT IS A WATER ACCESS

Pre-Confederation water lots exist along the Northwest Arm, Lake Banook, a Lake MicMac. These lots, unlike most water bodies, are in private hands. They may be infilled if approval is granted by the Federal government for the Northwest Arm, or the Provincial government for Lakes Banook and MicMac. has no authority over the infilling of these lots, but can regulate any developing that occurs after infilling.

Park & Community Facility Designation



WHAT ARE THE PARK AND COMMUNITY FACILITY 70NES?

WHERE IS THE PARK AND COMMUNITY FACILITY DESIGNATION LOCATED? The Park and Community Facility Designation will apply to existing parks and open spaces of regional and national significance, local parks, cemeteries, conservation lands, and waterfortont sued for recreation or lesiume activities. This designation will also apply to the following uses within predominantly park and open space settings: public schools, community facilities and club recreation facilities.

Heritage Conservation

Note that the **Westmount area** is included in the list of Heritage Conservation areas.



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HAPPY PASSOVER - APRIL 8 - 16!



The global COVID-19 pandemic has certainly changed our reality and has impacted our gatherings including traditional celebrations when we would normally enjoy multiple guests. I found this inspiring message from Rabbi Bortz that you may find of interest:

"In a globalized world, when isolation and physical distance is required to combat this COVID-19 pandemic, we need to be mindful of preserving the principal pikuach nefesh, saving lives. The Passover seder this year should be taken as a shahat hadchak, an emergency situation in which we limit the number of people around the table to our immediate family. More than ever, Pesach this year should provide us with an opportunity to reflect on bonds and boundaries, freedom and pollution, opulence and

scarceness, arrogance and humility," Rabbi Analia Bortz



HAPPY EASTER - APRIL 10 - 13!



Traditional Easter activities including church services and community egg hunts are being cancelled this year, however; this does not halt the celebrations! You may still communicate with friends, family, neighbours via social media and, many churches are now offering online services. Stay safe and celebrate!



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DISTRICT 9 PARTICIPATORY BUDGET 2020

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and in the interest of public safety, the District 9 Participatory Budget previously scheduled dates are now cancelled:

April 15th Info Session & Idea Swap -CANCELLED May 15th Submission Deadline – CANCELLED June 3rd Community Vote / Town Hall -CANCELLED

New dates will be provided once the COVID-19 pandemic is under control and public gatherings are once again permitted.

You may still submit District Capital funding requests for review by completing the District Capital Fund Request Form and providing a letter explaining the project, non-profit status of the group, the amount requested and how the project will benefit the greater community of District 9.

COVID-19 UPDATES

For the most recent information concerning municipal services / programs in relation to COVID-19, please view our <u>website</u>. Here are some highlights of recent updates:

Online Permits and Applications

 An <u>online form</u> has been created for all permit and sub-division application intakes.

- Applications for Rezoning, Municipal Plan Amendments, Development Agreements, or Downtown Halifax Site Plan Approvals can be submitted via email to Carl Purvis – Planning Applications Program Manager purvisc@halifax.ca.
- Revised drawings and/or any amended application information for current files can also be submitted via email, directly to the planner assigned to your file.

Halifax Transit

Halifax Transit is in contact with Public Health and continues to take direction regarding all necessary steps required to safeguard the health of employees and the public.

- Buses and ferries will continue to operate on a <u>reduced schedule</u>.
- The 5-person social gathering limit and two metre social distancing limit does not apply to Halifax Transit as stated in the provincial order.
- Halifax Transit has taken steps to reduce the spread of COVID-19 including an increased frequency of wipe-downs of high-touch surfaces, making the first seat unavailable to riders on buses (this does not impact accessible seating), limiting passengers on buses to seated passengers only, and limiting the number of ferry passengers to 50 per trip.

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- Riders must continue to board and exit through the rear doors only and are asked to only use transit services if necessary.
- Riders should continue to social distance as much as possible and should not use transit if they are feeling unwell.

For more information on municipal services during the COVID-19 pandemic, visit Halifax.ca/coronavirus.

Thank you for helping with the community effort to reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19.

Important phone numbers for your reference are:

General medical / health related questions related to COVID-19 in Nova Scotia:

- 211 OR Public Health support line 902-481-5800 (staffed 8am-8pm M-F)
- people concerned they may have COVID-19 use the online selfassessment BEFORE calling 811 -https://when-to-call-about-covid19.novascotia.ca/en

To report people not following social distancing rules in the community:

 Police non-emergency line 902-490-5020 OR 902-490-7252

To report workplaces not following social distancing rules:

- 1-800-952-2687 to register concern with provincial occupational health and safety inspector.
- Government of Canada coronavirus information line – 1-833-784-4397

HRM SPRING AND SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAMMING



Consistent with the decision by the Province of Nova Scotia to close all provincial parks, all municipal parks, beaches, playgrounds, sports fields/courts, and trails are closed until further notice.

All HRM Spring Recreation programming has been cancelled. Summer Recreation programming registration scheduled for April 1st has been cancelled. The status of summer recreation programming will be determined at a later date.

Please note that:

- Residential pathways that connect streets can be used.
- Multi-use paths along streets that replace sidewalks can be used.

April 2020

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- Residents can use trails in their neighborhood only, provided that trail is not connected to or in a park.
- Residents are not permitted to drive to trails outside their neighbourhood.
- Some municipal arenas will begin to remove ice surfaces in the coming days for maintenance. Should this affect a previous booking, staff will be contacting residents about refunds.
- All municipally owned recreation facilities, community centres and arenas are closed, and all programs and bookings will be suspended until further notice.

Please note, for residents who were booked into a program that has been canceled, staff will be in touch in the coming weeks regarding the status of your account.

We ask residents to hold off on contacting recreation staff as they continue to help support ongoing service adjustments related to preventing the spread of COVID-19.



HALIFAX PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Our phenomenal library staff are finding creative ways to continue serving



you during the COVID-19 situation.

One method has been the development of an <u>online registration</u> for library cards. The library card will connect you to a multitude of free online services such as: E-Books, Audiobooks and the E-Library (online resources and tools like Lynda.com, TumbleBooks, and hoopla video streaming)

Check out the <u>Halifax Public Libraries</u> website as information is being updated daily!



Lynda lives in our E-Library, and she's here for you, yearround. Let her

teach you about everything from leadership to graphic design.

How-to tutorial:

https://my.nicheacademy.com/halifaxpublicli braries/course/1399 ...



HALIFAX WEST ARMDALE

LOCAL POETRY - CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

The Writers' Federation of Nova Scotia (WFNS) in partnership with the Halifax Regional Municipality and Halifax Public Libraries, is bringing back another year of Poetry in Motion to the city of Halifax and beyond.

Poetry in Motion is a public poetry art project that features short poems on transit ads in buses; on digital signs at libraries, ferry terminals, and recreation centres; and on social media posts.

Poems will be original work by Nova Scotian residents 16 years of age or older on the theme - journeys - this theme can be interpreted broadly, and may touch on journeys outward, journeys back home, the passage of time, or other forms of travel, transportation, and exploration.

Deadline for submissions is May 31, 2020.

For more information or to submit a poem, click here.



COUNCILLOR SHAWN CLEARY

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I am a member of Halifax Regional Council, Halifax and West Community Council, Regional Centre Community Council and the following boards and committees:

- Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee
- Transportation Standing Committee
- Community Design Advisory Committee
- Halifax Partnership
- Halifax Chain of Lakes Trails Association Halifax Partnership

"The gem cannot be polished without friction, nor man perfected without trials."

Chinese Proverb

