



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

WELCOME DECEMBER!

TABLE OF CONTENTS



Happy Chanukah, Merry Christmas and Joyous Kwanzaa! Our holiday season will be different this year as we continue our vigilance in keeping COVID-19 under control.

Social activities and celebrations may be reduced in size, provided virtually or cancelled outright. I am grateful that we have the option to connect with friends and family to celebrate our varied traditions even if that means a Skype or Zoom gathering.

May the New Year bring us all health and happiness.

Due to the current COVID-19 situation, my Beaver Bank Hub office hours are suspended until further notice.

WELCOME DECEMBER! 1
TABLE OF CONTENTS..... 1
DECEMBER REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING DATES 2
AFFORDABLE HOUSING 2
HOW TO RIDE HALIFAX TRANSIT 2
FREE ONLINE FINE ARTS CLASSES 3
STAY SAFE!..... 3
FREE ONLINE IT TRAINING FOR YOUTH AGED 18-29..... 4
BUDGET 2020/21 4
WHY PAID PARKING?..... 5
BEAVER BANK STATION 48 PORT-A-TANK 2020 6
HAPPY CHANUKAH! 6
MERRY CHRISTMAS!..... 7
JOYOUS KWANZAA!..... 7
VIRTUAL SACKVILLE CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING 8
HAPPY NEW YEAR! 8
COUNCILLOR LISA BLACKBURN 8



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DECEMBER REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING DATES

Regional Council will meet virtually on the following dates in December:

Tuesday, December 1st at 10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, December 8th at 10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, December 15th at 10:00 a.m.

Please check our [website](#) to confirm dates and times as the meeting schedule is subject to change.

The RHI covers the construction of modular housing, as well as the acquisition of land, and the conversion of existing buildings into affordable housing options. The funding is much needed and will help municipalities address urgent housing needs for those who are vulnerable.

Questions can be directed to Jillian MacLellan, Planner III, at 902-717-3167 or email: maclelj@halifax.ca.

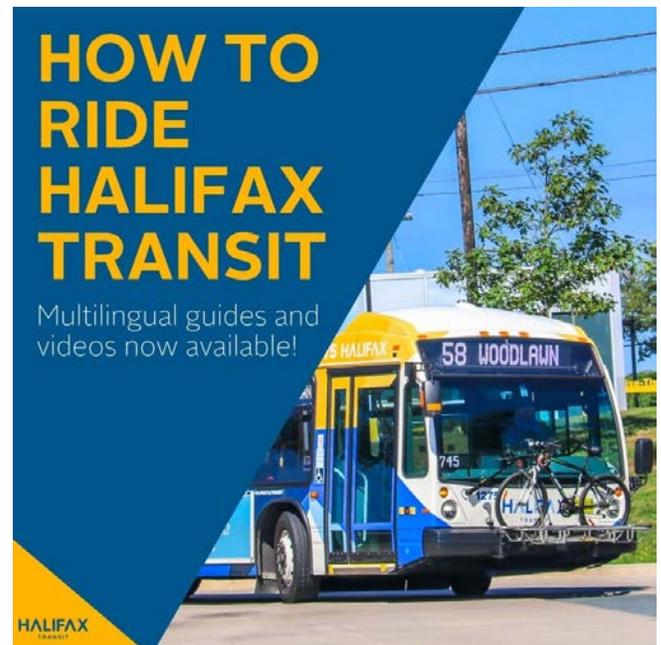
AFFORDABLE HOUSING



On November 24th, Regional Council passed the [Rapid Housing Initiative investment plan](#), to be submitted to the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, in order to accept \$8,659,527 in funding for the creation of a minimum of 28 permanent affordable housing units.

In October 2020, the [Federal Government launched a new Rapid Housing Initiative \(RHI\)](#) that invests \$1 billion to create up to 3,000 new permanent, affordable housing units across Canada.

HOW TO RIDE HALIFAX TRANSIT



As part of the municipality's ongoing commitment to create an accessible and inclusive transit system for all, Halifax Transit is launching the *How to Ride* campaign, designed to help new riders and newcomers understand how to access and use the transit system.



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With the help of ISANS and the municipality's Office of Diversity & Inclusion/ANSAIO, the campaign includes the launch of the [How to Ride: A Guide to Using Halifax Transit](#), a collection of easy-to-follow guides and videos in multiple languages, covering information about how to access route maps and schedules, plan a trip, pay fares, transfer and ride safely.

Printed guides will be available at Halifax Public Library branches in the coming weeks and can be also accessed and ordered [online](#) now, in the following languages:

- English
- Arabic
- Farsi
- French
- Korean
- Simplified Chinese
- Spanish

Educational videos are now available [here](#) in the following languages:

- English
- Arabic
- Nepali
- Somali
- Swahili
- Tigrinya

To learn more and to access the guides and videos, visit halifax.ca/howtoridetransit.

FREE ONLINE FINE ARTS CLASSES



FREE ONLINE VIRTUAL FINE ARTS CLASSES

Singing, Drama, Play-Writing, Performance, Music Theory, Musical Theatre, Poetry, Spoken Word, Instrumental and Vocal Jazz, a Virtual Kitchen Party, Trumpet, Ukulele, Musical Theatre Dance training and Advanced Violin programs are all currently being offered with more to come!

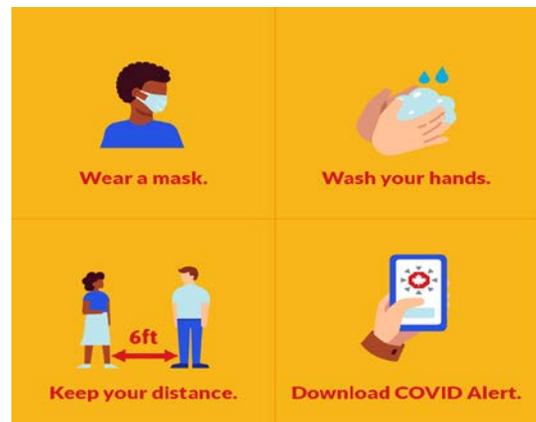
<https://sites.google.com/gnspes.ca/halifax-regional-arts-re-source/home/online-programs-2021>

Halifax Regional Arts is the supplementary funded Fine Arts school that provides support and enhancement across the HRCE for music, dance, drama and visual art. We graciously acknowledge the support of HRM Taxpayers and Halifax City Council in providing the support that makes so many amazing arts experiences possible for our students. #ThanksToYouHalifax

Hold your Smart Phone over this image in Camera Setting for the link:



STAY SAFE!





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FREE ONLINE IT TRAINING FOR YOUTH AGED 18-29

BUDGET 2020/21



We need your input! Help us decide on priorities for the 2020/21 budget by participating in the [survey](#). We recognize your priorities may have shifted during the COVID-19 pandemic. Our goal with this survey is to understand where you would like to see investments in municipal programs and services.

Your responses will help guide the Halifax Regional Municipality with its immediate and long-term business and budget planning.

The deadline to complete the survey is Monday, December 14, 2020.



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WHY PAID PARKING ?

As of October 13, 2020, parking technology changed from individual meters to pay stations: a pay-by-plate, pay-by-zone system. You will now see the new pay stations installed on-street. There is a mixture of paid, permit and hourly parking in parking zones.

The new parking technology makes it easier to pay and introduces more payment options like credit card, debit card, and smart pay. Payment is attached to your vehicle, not the parking space. This means your vehicle can move freely within the parking zone up to the time purchase or maximum time allowed.

HOW TO PAY FOR PARKING

Park using our new system in 5 easy steps

1 Press any button to start

The screen on the parking station may be black. Press any button to start your session.



2 Select payment type

if you're paying with coins or credit swipe, select "coins/swipe".

If you're paying with tap debit/credit or smartphone, select "tap card".



2

3 Enter plate and zone

Type the license plate number for the vehicle using the keypad.

The zone you are in is already selected. If purchasing time in a different zone, press the "select zone" button and type the letter of your zone.

ABC-123

3

4 Select time

You can select time in 15 minute, 30 minute, or 1 hour increments up to a maximum of 4 hours. Press the "next" button once you have entered your time.

Press confirm if the time and payment due displayed are correct.



4

5 Make payment

Paying with coins: add coins when screen displays "Confirm to pay with card or Insert coins to pay total and confirm". Press confirm when Payment Due reads \$0.00.

Paying with swipe: press confirm when the screen displays "Confirm to pay with card or Insert coins to pay total and confirm". Insert card when screen reads "Insert card".

Paying with tap: press confirm when the screen displays "Please confirm and Tap Card when instructed". Tap card when screen reads "TAP card below and wait processing to complete".



5

Or, skip these steps and download the HotSpot app. Pay for parking from the palm of your hand.

Available for Apple and Android devices.

HALIFAX

With this new system you will be able to apply for residential and commuter parking permits, submit and manage your documents online. Most permits will be tied to your license plate - no need to display permits in your window.

Learn more about our [parking permit options](#).

P WHY PAID PARKING?

The municipal parking program is comprised of a number of tactics to help balance the priorities of Council as they relate to the Integrated Mobility Plan and the needs of residents. These tactics include:

- Residential parking restrictions (Urban, Suburban, Rural)
- Permit parking (residential and commuter - Urban)
- Paid On-Street Parking (Central, Urban)
- Paid Off-Street Parking (Metro Park, Alderney Landing)
- Park & Rides (Urban, Suburban, Rural)
- "Free" or un-restricted parking (Urban, Suburban, Rural)

It is estimated that each on-street parking space costs around \$1,750 to build and \$400 to maintain annually.[1]

Offering parking for free, or at a highly subsidized rate, further incentivizes car culture and provides benefit to the individual as opposed to the broader community.

Why Incremental Rates?

Renowned Parking economist Donald Shoup believes that "if meters are priced right, cars will fill most of the curb spaces, leaving one to two vacant spaces per block." (Shoup, 2019 p. xxvi)

Pricing on-street parking appropriately results in turn over for businesses, creates spaces for when residents need them, reduce the need to "circle the block to find parking" resulting in decreased carbon emissions and has been shown to drive consumer behaviour to consider alternate modes of travel such as transit, active transportation, ride sharing etc.

Our incremental rate system prices the first two hours well below off-street value and then increases for the subsequent hours, encouraging motorists to make informed choices about how they use parking.

How Can Technology Help?

The municipality's parking system is designed to accommodate incremental and time of day pricing. Our rates are set by Council via By-Law P500 for on-street paid parking and By-Law P1200 for permits.

The system can show us time of day usage and help inform staff on setting the appropriate rate(s) for the area and demand based on time of day.

Staff are exploring future use of sensors that provide real-time information on space-occupancy. In the interim, we are leveraging system data and field studies to monitor performance of the current rate system.

Questions?

Contact us:
parking@halifax.ca

[1] Shoup, D. C. (2019). The High Cost of Free Parking. London: Routledge.

HALIFAX



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BEAVER BANK STATION 48 PORT-A-TANK 2020

HAPPY CHANUKAH!

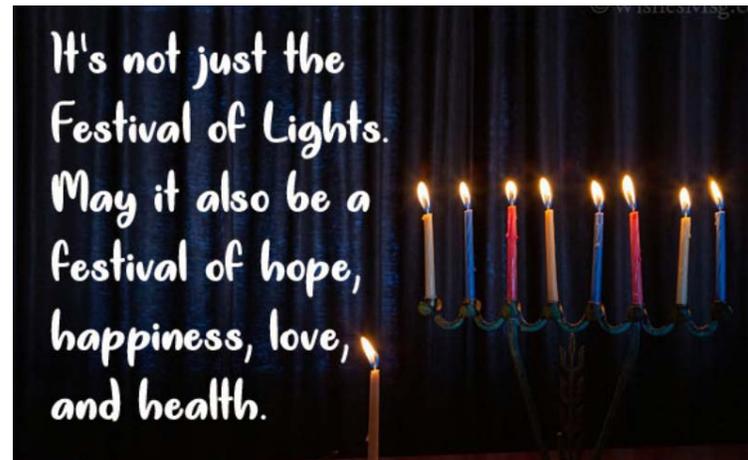


Chanukah begins on Thursday, December 10th and ends on Friday, December 18th.

The in-person Menorah lighting ceremony is cancelled for this year.

The Menorah will be lit in Grade Parade from Friday, December 11th until Friday, December 18th.

6





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MERRY CHRISTMAS!

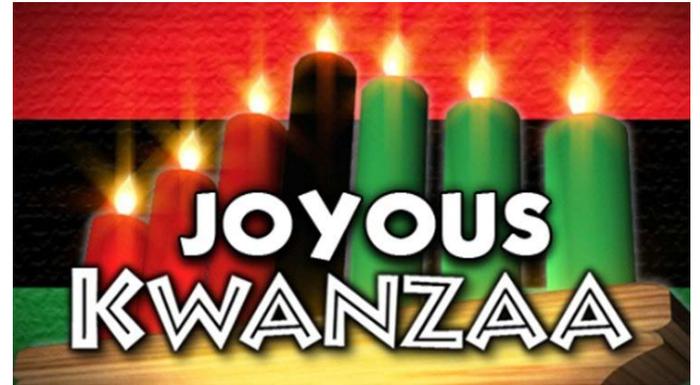
The in-person tree lighting ceremony at Grand Parade Square is cancelled for this year. The tree is in place and decorated.

This year the municipality created a video about the story of how the municipality's Christmas Tree came to Grand Parade next to City Hall. A holiday projection and light show at Grand Parade Square began on Saturday, November 28th and runs until Friday, January 1st. For the full schedule and details, [visit the website](#).

May you have a wonderful Christmas with family and friends this December 25th.



JOYOUS KWANZAA!



Kwanzaa is celebrated from December 26th to January 1st.

The lighting of the Kinara takes place each day and represents one of the seven core principles of the holiday: Unity, Self Determination, Collective Work and Responsibility, Cooperative Economics, Purpose, Creativity and Faith.





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VIRTUAL SACKVILLE CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING



I was thrilled to be the MC for the virtual Sackville Christmas Tree lighting event on November 27th. Great start to the holiday season.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!



A studio broadcast of the New Year's Eve show will be held this year, with live music and

entertainment. **There will be no outdoor gathering due to current COVID-19 regulations.** More information, as well as an artist announcement, will be made in the coming weeks on the [municipal website](#).

COUNCILLOR LISA BLACKBURN

COUNCILLOR LISA BLACKBURN
District 14
Middle/Upper Sackville - Beaver Bank - Lucasville



Halifax Regional Municipality PO Box 1749
Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 3A5
Cell: 902.579.7164
Lisa.Blackburn@halifax.ca
Twitter: @newsbag
halifax.ca 311

HALIFAX

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

- Appeals Standing Committee
- Accessibility Advisory Committee
- Board of Police Commissioners
- Discover Halifax
- Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee
- Halifax Regional Library Board
- North West Planning Advisory Committee
- Special Events Advisory Committee

