



COUNCILLOR BECKY KENT
DISTRICT 3 ONLINE NEWS
DARTMOUTH SOUTH - EASTERN PASSAGE

MESSAGE FROM BECKY

Hello District 3 Residents,

Thank you again for taking the time to read my newsletter. I hope you are finding it interesting and helpful. Much of my days are spent in budget deliberations. I am committed to keeping our tax rate at the rate we are at now. There are many considerations that come in to play, and I believe we can do it. I believe that this is the year, beyond comparison, that we need to do our best to NOT add burden to our taxpayers. It is also important that we approve budgets according to need. If there was any area that I would support an increase in spending it is around traffic safety and traffic calming. We have much to do. Please let me know through email what is on your mind. Stay safe.

Warmly,

PLEASE DRIVE SLOWLY SIGNS AVAILABLE



HALIFAX

If you are interested in a slow down sign for your lawn/personal property, please email me. These signs are made of plastic and come with the lawn stakes for installation. Please be informed that the District 3

“Please Drive Slowly” signs are NOT a traffic calming measure, and they have no authority to direct or slow down traffic or make children safer on the streets.

HRM’s Traffic Authority advises:



“HRM's streets are a dangerous place for children to play and the presence of “children playing” or “slow down” signs may imply an intention to protect, rather than discourage, on-roadway play activities. Parents might be inclined to feel that because there is a sign asking motorists to slow down (but provides no enforceable reason for them to do so) it is safe for their children to play on or near the street. The best defence is for all parties, parents, children, and drivers alike, to exert caution at all locations, whether signs are posted or not.

Please ensure the following:

- The signs remain on your own property.
- They are not placed in the HRM Right of Way.
- Removal of the sign if it is damaged, and call Councillor Kent at 902-478-5368 for a replacement.

TRAFFIC CALMING

I have been working tirelessly toward addressing traffic calming and speeding on our streets. In 2018, Council approved an [administrative order](#) that set the requirements and metrics to assess needs on streets identified as unsafe. This has led to a list of almost 300 streets with many that could be as long as ten plus years to address. It has been said in recent budget deliberation discussions, when I have raised the issue of streets in need in District 3, that there are potentially 2900 streets in HRM that would meet the criteria, and cost \$100 million dollars to address over 100 years of work to address. That is just not a

feasible way forward. I, and many of my colleagues are saying we need a new way to address speeding on our streets. Of course, traffic calming, such as speed bumps, street bumpouts, boulevards, etc are only some aspects of solution. Speed limits and speeding mechanisms to catch speeders like cameras are others. I can say comfortably that staff are listening and have committed to coming back with a recommendation for a new approach. As your representative, I am committed to working on this as a high priority.

MOUNT EDWARD ROAD CAPITAL PROJECT

The Halifax Regional Municipality's (HRM) advance funded 2021/22 Capital Budget provides for the recapitalization of Mount Edward Road between Woodlawn Road and Belle Vista Drive and new sidewalk installation between Woodlawn Road and John Cross Drive. The recapitalization work includes asphalt renewal, full curb replacement and partial sidewalk repair between Woodlawn Road and Spring Avenue and milling & paving between Spring Avenue and Belle Vista Drive. It is expected that some street trees will be removed within the city right-of-way to make room for the new sidewalk.

Pending full budget approval, the proposed work will involve tie-in to driveways and some lawn slopes, but it is expected that most work will be within HRM's right-of-way. Any fences, hedges, shrubs and/or gardens within the street right-of-way may have to be moved or removed before construction by the property owner. Please note, HRM will remove any items in conflict with



construction. Please advise us if you have a heated driveway, invisible dog fence or in-ground sprinkler system. Trees within the street right-of-way will be addressed by the Municipality and must not be removed by the property owner.

This work is planned for the 2021 construction season. Please note that HRM By-Law S-300 states that pavement cuts shall not be permitted (except for emergency water or sewer breaks, etc.) for two years after the street has been paved. If you have a project requiring a pavement cut, please contact HRM or the appropriate utility to initiate the work, apply for a permit and have the work finished before the HRM project begins. For additional driveways or driveway modifications, please contact HRM at 311. For water or sewer lateral works, please contact Halifax Water at 902-490-9287. For installation of natural gas laterals, please contact Heritage Gas at 1-877-836-7427.

All efforts will be taken to reduce the impact to your property during construction and a follow-up notice will be given by HRM prior to starting the work. If you have any tenants at this address, please forward a copy of this letter for their information.

There will be several stages of construction taking place during this project. If someone at your address has difficulty crossing uneven ground, gravel or steps, please let us know in advance so we can work with you for alternate access, where possible, during the project.

During construction, parking access may be impacted both on street and in driveways to complete the work. Further notice of impacts for driveway access will be given at time of construction.

IMPROVEMENTS TO ADDRESS SHORE ROAD EROSION

Shore Road, adjacent to Redoubt Way in Eastern Passage is slated for armour stone restoration. Requests for quotes are out in the industry for this project. This area has been eroding to the point where the road right of way, and safety for walkers are at risk. You will see this improvement sometime in the near future.



TREE PROTECTION FOR RUSSELL LAKE PARK AND BIRCHES PARK

The Portland Estates Hills Residents Association (PEHRA) brought forth the concern over the number of shoreline trees that are being destroyed by the local beaver colony in Portland Estates. Losing these shoreline trees is increasing the risk of lake shore erosion and it is also the loss of the valuable ecological benefit that trees provide.

PEHRA volunteered to provide mitigation using a commonly practiced technique, wrapping trees with wire fencing. They are planning to



conduct the work with the local Scout group. It will provide valuable experience and learning about the local ecology to the Scouts as well as helping protect the parklands and lakes.

The work requires a loosely wrapped piece of 16 gauge wire galvanized fencing 3 feet high with 2" x 2" square openings to be installed around vulnerable Birch, Poplar, and Maple trees along the shores of Russell and Morris Lake. The fencing will be monitored over time to ensure it is intact/safe, and not harming the trees.

I was happy to provide financial support to this project by way of a donation from the district activity funds. I would like to thank PHERA and the Scouts for their care for the community and our environment, and for volunteering to take on the tree fencing project.

INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

March 21st is International Day For The Elimination of Racial Discrimination "Youth Standing Up Against Racism" is the 2021 theme. It engages the public through **#FightRacism**, which aims to foster a global culture of tolerance, equality and anti-discrimination and calls on each and every one of us to stand up against racial prejudice and intolerant attitudes.

INTERNATIONAL WOMENS DAY



Residents invited to celebrate International Women's Day virtually

The Halifax Regional Municipality's Office of Diversity & Inclusion/ANSAIO and Halifax Public Libraries are inviting residents to celebrate International Women's Day 2021 virtually, on Monday, March 8.

Co-hosted by Councillor Pamela Lovelace and Christine Qin Yang, the event's keynote speaker will be Rajean Willis – a clinical social worker, writer, researcher and PhD candidate from Truro. The virtual event will also feature performances as well as a panel discussion around this year's theme – Choose to Challenge: Women's Resilience in the Time of COVID-19.

Date: Monday, March 8

Time: 10 a.m. to noon

Registration: All are welcome to register for this free virtual event on Zoom here.

Following the event, a video recording will be available at:
<https://www.youtube.com/user/HRMNovaScotia>

Learn more about [International Women's Day 2021](#).



COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM

I would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone that the Community Grants Program application deadline is March 31st. Please visit our [website](#) for more information.

SNOWMOBILE SAFETY TIPS



Snowmobiling is enjoyed by many Nova Scotia residents during the winter months. The Nova Scotia RCMP is reminding snowmobile enthusiasts about the importance of safety on the trails this season.

With a lack of consistently cold weather and fluctuating temperatures this winter, the RCMP is also encouraging snowmobile operators to avoid travelling on bodies of water. Always check the weather and ice conditions before travelling as the quality and thickness of ice can change quickly.

“Snowmobiling can be a fun winter activity but it can also be dangerous if safety precautions are not taken,” says Cpl. Mark Skinner, Public Information Officer. “Each winter we see serious injuries from unsafe snowmobiling practices so it’s important to plan ahead and always drive safe and sober.”

Here are a few more safety tips to keep in mind when planning your trip:

- Always check the weather conditions before you leave.
- Never ride alone.
- Take a cell phone in case of emergency.
- Have a map and take note of shelters available along the way.
- Always wear protective clothing, including a helmet, gloves and eye protection. Wear layers of clothing to keep warm and dry.
- Ride at a reasonable rate of speed. Know your riding partner's driving limitations as well as your own and operate only at a speed that allows you both to remain in total control of your snowmobiles.
- Ride sober. Don't drink or consume drugs before or while snowmobiling. Remember, it's a Criminal Code offence whether you're driving a car or a snowmobile.
- When venturing into remote areas, snowmobilers should be alert and take all precautions necessary, as help could be several hours away.

For additional snowmobile safety tips, visit: https://novascotia.ca/natr/ohv/riders_handbook.asp.



ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION EDUCATION AND PROMOTION GRANT PROGRAM

Halifax Regional Municipality is pleased to launch the new Active Transportation Education and Promotion Grant Program.

Active Transportation (AT) Education and Promotion Grants are intended to support projects to increase the number of people walking, bicycling and rolling and improving the safety of people using these modes.

Projects may include:

- Safety and skills training programs
- AT promotions and marketing programs
- AT education and engagement
- AT related events
- Etiquette programs
- Transportation Demand Management Programs

There are three types of projects measured in funding and reach:

- Small Community project grant under \$1,000: smaller projects (localized) in one or more communities in HRM
- Large Community project grant of \$1000 - \$5,000: larger project or event (requiring significant logistics efforts) meant to reach a broader audience in communities across HRM;
- Major project grant over \$5,000: large project with significant logistics, partnerships and duration efforts with an intended reach across the municipality

[Active Transportation Education and Promotion Grants Terms](#) outline projects' eligibility, evaluation criteria, terms and timelines. To submit a proposal, please download and save on your computer the [Active Transportation Education and Promotion Grant Application](#). Complete the info requested and sent it along with required supporting documents by email: martinem@halifax.ca.

Workshop with Q&A will be delivered online on March 15th, 2021 from 1:30pm to 3:30pm to provide interested groups with an opportunity to ask questions about the grant and discuss proposals, ideas and timelines as known to them at the time of the workshop. You can register by sending an email at martinem@halifax.ca. A link to a MS teams meeting will be send to you confirming registration.

To be considered, spring-summer proposals and supporting documents required must be received on or before April 9, 2021.

To arrange other methods to submit the proposal and supporting documents, please contact:

Emma Martin, AT Community Projects Coordinator at martinem@halifax.ca or call 902-499-6742.



HRM PARKS AND RECREATION IS HIRING!

There is a wide variety of employment opportunities with our Parks and Recreation Department this spring and summer. Please visit our Employment Opportunities [website](#) to view job postings.



STEP UP TO LEADERSHIP SESSIONS

Check out the Step Up to Leadership Sessions starting March 18th. Learn leadership skills that can be used in any setting and will benefit youth of all ages!



STEP UP TO LEADERSHIP

Spring 2021 Step Up to Leadership sessions are now open for registration! Sign up for your free spot online at halifax.ca/myrec using the course code 00038442 or call our registration line at 902-490-6666.

Location | Fairbanks Centre, 54 Locks Rd., Dartmouth (Shubie Park)

Time | Thursdays starting March 18 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. for nine weeks.

Course code | 00038442

halifax.ca/volunteer



NEW OSPREY PLATFORM AT RUSSELL LAKE

Ethel and Oscar’s nest has been relocated by Nova Scotia Power. Below are a couple of pictures of the nest being moved. The nest was also placed at its new nearby roost further south along the Portland Lakes Trail, and is awaiting their return.

Nova Scotia Power has put together a brief FAQ and key messages about the move that are primarily focused on addressing the nest relocation with their customers once the new osprey cam is set up and ready to launch.

- The Osprey Cam gives members of the public a bird’s eye view of a nesting osprey family in Nova Scotia.
- Due to construction in the area, we safely relocated the osprey nest and our Osprey Cam.
- The safety of the birds is our top priority. We have safely relocated the nest to a nearby site in the area where the birds won’t be disturbed.
- We’re giving Oscar and Ethel some well-deserved privacy after their 10+ years on camera. We will be setting up a new Osprey Cam at a nesting site.
- We’ve worked on this solution in partnership with our Environment Team, Halifax Water, Lands and Forestry, HRM



COUNCILLOR BECKY KENT

DARTMOUTH SOUTH - EASTERN PASSAGE

Parks, the Museum of Natural History, and Nova Scotia Webcams.

Does this mean there won't be a webcam next year?

NSP will be setting up the webcam at a different location in Nova Scotia this year. This means we'll be highlighting a new osprey family in 2021.

Why are you moving the camera to a different area of the province?

NSP were unable to arrange the appropriate technical setup for the camera at the new nesting site. After sharing Oscar and Ethel with the world for 10 years, they also felt it was the right time to give the osprey family some well-deserved privacy!

Why are you moving the nest?

Due to construction at the pump house directly below the nest, they are safely relocating the nest to an area nearby where the birds won't be disturbed when they return in the Spring.

What if the osprey can't find the new nest?

Thanks for expressing your concern. Osprey return to the same general area each year. It is not uncommon for them to have several nesting sites within their territory. They are confident the osprey pair will be comfortable in their new home.

What is the Osprey Management Program?

Since 1979, Nova Scotia Power has been working to protect the osprey, a once endangered species and the official bird of Nova Scotia. Through the Osprey Management Program, NS Power's power line technicians work with the Department of Lands and Forestry to relocate threatened nests from atop live utility poles to safer, unused poles placed nearby.

Why can't we use batteries/solar and set up the camera on Ethel and Oscar again?

Their webcam works at a high resolution so it can zoom in on the nest and show the amazing details we enjoy. This requires a reliable power source and internet connection to achieve and to date the battery/solar-powered webcams are not sufficient. We would prefer not to have too many breaks in the feed, so decided to find a new site with a reliable power and internet connection.





COUNCILLOR BECKY KENT

DARTMOUTH SOUTH - EASTERN PASSAGE

COMMUNITY COUNCIL SCHEDULE AND AGENDA

The Harbour East – Marine Drive Community Council normally meets on the first Thursday of each month, at 6:00 p.m. in the HEMDCC Meeting Space, Main Floor Alderney Gate, 60 Alderney Drive, Dartmouth. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, Community Council is meeting virtually. Meeting dates, time and location are subject to change.

You can find agendas, report, and minutes [online](#).

CONTACT

Should you wish to discuss municipal services or programs, please contact me at **becky.kent@halifax.ca** or **902-478-5368**. For routine municipal matters, please call our Citizen Contact Centre at 311. To reach my office, please call Nadine Yuriev at **902-490-1577**. For information on all things municipal, please visit our [website](#).

SAVE THE DATE

I am organizing some online engagement meetings with residents who would like an opportunity to get to know me better, have a chance to engage on specific subjects, share concerns or ideas, etc.

The tentative dates are listed below. In some cases they will be specific to subjects areas and in others open town hall meetings. In each case, you will need to preregister by email (kentb@halifax.ca) so I can send you confirmation of date/time and log in information. Each meeting will be from 7-8pm.

These will be held through Zoom. If you don't have a Zoom account you can join through your browser.


SAVE THE DATE
District 3 Virtual Updates with Councillor Becky Kent

SIGN UP: Please pre-register by email at becky.kent@halifax.ca.

A confirmation of date/time and log in information will be sent in advance of the meeting.

Meeting Platform: Zoom

TBA—Woodlawn, Town Hall

Mon. March 22—South Woodside, Town Hall

Thurs. April 8—Russell Lake, Town Hall

Wed. April 14—Eastern Passage, Town Hall

Thurs. April 22—Cow Bay, Town Hall

Thurs. April 29—Portland Estates/Portland Hills, Town Hall

HALIFAX