



COUNCILLOR TONY MANCINI
DISTRICT 6 ONLINE NEWS
HARBOURVIEW - BURNSIDE - DARTMOUTH EAST

Together We Can Build Safe, Healthy, Active Communities

WELCOME APRIL

With the worst of winter weather behind us, we have so much to look forward to with warmer days in our forecast. The advent of spring brings exciting new programs and events in our community, and the start of municipal capital projects all across the municipality.

April 18th – 24th is National Volunteer Week. The theme for 2021 is “The Value of One, The Power of Many”. This past year has proven to be difficult for people, for so many reasons. I’d like to take this opportunity to extend my sincere appreciation and thanks to our amazing volunteers, who under extreme circumstances, remained faithful to their work in the community. As we reflect on the ways our region handled the struggles, sacrifices, and challenges this pandemic presented us with, it proves that our commitment to the wellbeing of our neighbour embodies the spirit of what “the value of one, power of many” truly means. It is extremely important that we continue to follow the public health protocols. Stay safe.

BIENVENUE AVRIL!

Avec le mauvais temps hivernal derrière nous, nous avons tellement à anticiper des jours plus chauds dans nos prévisions. L’avènement du printemps donne lieu à de nouveaux programmes et à de nouveaux événements intéressants dans notre collectivité et à l’amorce de projets d’immobilisations municipales dans l’ensemble de la municipalité.

Du 18 au 24 avril est la Semaine de l’action bénévole. Le thème de 2021 est « La valeur de chacun, la force du nombre ». L’année qui vient de s’écouler s’est avérée difficile, pour de nombreuses raisons. J’aimerais profiter de l’occasion pour exprimer ma sincère reconnaissance et remercier nos formidables bénévoles qui, dans des circonstances extrêmes, sont restés fidèles à leur travail dans la communauté. Réfléchissons à la façon dont notre région a géré les luttes, les sacrifices et les défis que nous a présentés cette pandémie : cela prouve que notre engagement envers le bien-être de notre voisin incarne l’esprit de ce que signifie vraiment « La valeur de chacun, la force du nombre ». Il est extrêmement important que nous continuions à suivre les protocoles de santé publique. Restez en sécurité.





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OFF LEASH DOG PARKS



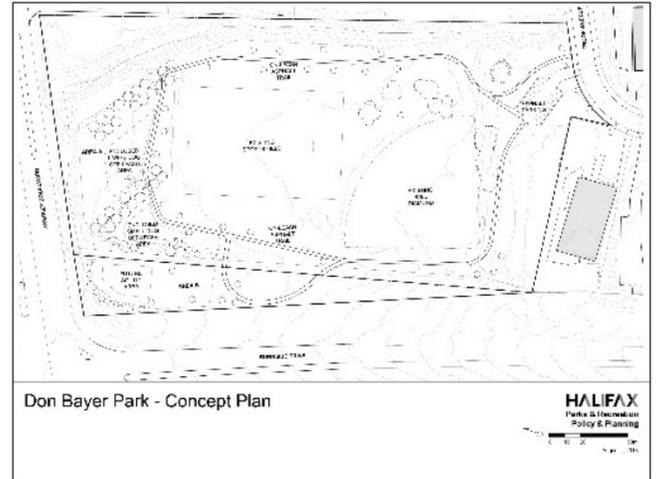
As a dog owner I agree with other dog owners that we need more 'Off Leash Dog Parks' in HRM.

We now have an [off leash dog park strategy](#) that identifies building more off-leash areas. Our design for the first new off leash dog park started in 2020 at Don Bayer Field in Burnside near Leon's. Unfortunately, this

was delayed due to COVID-19. This year, the design work will be completed, and the project will be considered for construction funding as part of the 2022/23 Capital Budget. The design is to include fenced in off-leash areas for large dogs, another area for smaller dogs, and on-leash trails. It may also include some agility features.

The Shubie Park off-leash area has become congested. It has turned into a regional off leash park and that was never the intention. Hopefully, the Don Bayer Off-Leash area will help to reduce the volume at Shubie Park. I believe after Don Bayer, there will be an off-leash location in Eastern Passage.

There can be a divide between some dog owners and non-dog owners. Most dog owners are responsible however there is a small percentage of owners that don't pick up after their dog, don't follow the rules etc. Unfortunately, irresponsible dog owners cause a problem for the rest of us. Dogs are a very important part of our municipality, and I will continue to advocate for more spaces for dogs, and for good dog owner behavior.



THE ANNUAL CANADIAN CANCER SOCIETY DAFFODIL CAMPAIGN GOES VIRTUAL



April is daffodil month. The daffodil campaign, which starts April 1st, is a major fundraiser for the Canadian Cancer Society. For the second year in a row, they will be

running their daffodil campaign virtually. You can visit their [website](#) to make a donation by purchasing a digital daffodil online. You can also make a donation to purchase a daffodil bulb that will be planted at one of the Canadian Cancer Society lodges across Canada.



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ROAD SAFETY AWARENESS: HEADS UP HALIFAX



Road safety is a shared responsibility for everyone — whether you're walking, cycling, rolling or driving. Through the [Strategic Road Safety Framework](#), the municipality is committed to the Towards Zero approach which is focused on moving closer towards zero fatalities and injuries for people using any mode of transportation by 2023.

To promote Road Safety Awareness, HRM has been undertaking a year-round road safety awareness campaign, [Heads Up Halifax](#). This is done through social media efforts via our [website](#), [twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), bus shelter ads, bus boards and in community papers. Our ongoing messaging aligns with the monthly road safety themes established by the province. The theme for April is Aggressive Driving.

The focus of our messaging is safe practices on the road for all modes of travel. This includes rules for crosswalks, how to use new municipal infrastructure, and municipal efforts to improve road safety across the region via engineering and traffic calming improvements.

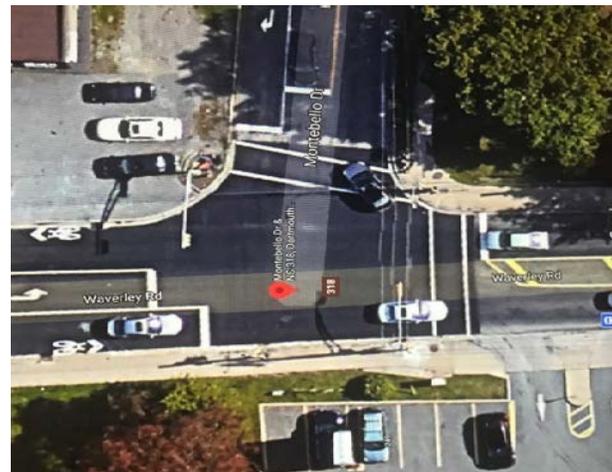
IMPAIRED DRIVING STATS FOR FEBRUARY

Halifax Regional Police charged 23 drivers with impaired related offences during the month of February. Police received 11 calls throughout the month of February from citizens who suspected impaired drivers. We thank citizens for calling in suspected impaired drivers and encourage citizens to call 911 immediately if you suspect someone is driving impaired.

PEDESTRIAN SAFETY

There has been lots of discussion about the safety of the intersection at Waverley Road and Montebello. I have heard from many residents who have experienced close calls at this location. I have been speaking with our Road Safety Engineer and we are looking at the implementation of a leading pedestrian interval. This is where the light turns green for the pedestrian first before it turns green for the vehicles. This will give the pedestrian more time to cross.

I also asked HRP for more enforcement in this area and Waverley Road. A request has been made to collect more traffic data and a speed display sign on Waverley Road, like the one we now see on Montebello.



MUNICIPAL BUDGET DELIBERATIONS

This month, Regional Council will continue to hear presentations from various business units for the 2021/22 Municipal Operating and Capital budget:

Business Unit	Date
Planning and Development	April 7 th , 9:30 a.m.
Consolidated Accounts / Budget Adjustment List (BAL) Review	April 20 th , 10 a.m.
Special Budget Meeting	April 21 st , 9:30 a.m.

These meetings are held virtually and can be viewed by visiting our [website](#).



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AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Affordable housing is in a real crisis in HRM. Even though housing is not the responsibility of the municipality, this issue is something that all of Council, including myself, is aware of and is working on within the limits of our authority and our budget. The following is a list of initiatives that municipal government has put in place:

- HRM Council took full advantage of the Federal Government Rapid Housing Initiative funds to put together 52 units plus a 30-bed shelter, which is well beyond our requirement to put together 28 units in total of over \$8 million.
- HRM Council recently put in place Density Bonusing. Density Bonusing is an increase in provincial investments in the built area of a development in exchange for public amenities and/or contribute to the livability. The developer would pay for that extra density and we place those funds into a reserve that is given to non-profit groups so they can build affordable housing.
- HRM surplus land is being made available for affordable housing. We recently have done this with land in Dartmouth North on True North Crescent. The land was sold to Nova Scotia Affordable Housing for a \$1, so they can build affordable housing.

HRM Council has asked the Province to allow the municipality to have Inclusionary Zoning. If this request is approved, many new developments would include affordable housing. Currently, HRM does not have the legal authority to do this, so approval is needed from the Province. Homeowners can now add secondary suites and backyard suites accessory to single unit, two-unit or townhouse dwellings.

Affordable Housing is the responsibility/mandate of the Province of Nova Scotia, not the municipality. Over the last 20 years, no provincial government has added any new off-market housing, even as the population has grown and income inequality has worsened. The rent supplements that the Province has favoured are helpful to some, but we desperately need more off-market housing and, more importantly, supportive housing to provide space for people who face challenges that make living independently difficult. We need meaningful change in housing and social programs. There have been some recent positive announcements around funding for non-profits, but it is not enough.

I know these solutions don't solve the immediate problems. Change comes slowly and requires all orders of government to work together.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLACEMAKING

HRM will be launching our first of four Neighbourhood Placemaking kits during National Volunteer Week – April 18th -24th. Since Covid has put a pause on gathering for large placemaking projects, we're offering neighbourhood kits as a booster project.

There will be seed kits, chalk kits, recipe kits and story telling kits. Participants will make a plan to grow their plants 'together apart' and connect through the shared activity. Supplies will be limited, and will be first come, first serve, per recreation area. Please visit our [webpage](#) for more information.





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BI-WEEKLY GREEN BIN & BLUE BAG RECYCLING



In 2020, as part of many COVID cuts, HRM stopped offering weekly pickup. I did hear from some folks who were upset about that decision, but it was nowhere near as controversial as many of us on Council thought it would be. Transportation & Public Works noted the same, receiving much less feedback than expected. I get the sense that, for most people, ditching weekly pickup might have been a bit of a nuisance, but it was generally not a big deal. Those who did find it problematic though, really didn't like the change. We also received feedback from some folks who suggested we should have cut the weekly blue bag recycling instead since recycling is typically more easily stored.

I'm not opposed to having weekly service for green bins or blue bag recycling, but HRM's resources are limited. Everything Council does is a choice. There is no scenario where we get to keep taxes low, add or even just maintain services, not cut anything, and not take on debt. We can pick one or two of those, but not all four. It's just math. We still have more departments to hear from and the budget adjustment list already has some good initiatives on it. Is summer green bin pickup more important than doing traffic calming in every school zone? How does it rate in terms of trying to keep the tax bill low or ensuring that HRM has the dollars available for

transformational capital projects? These are the sorts of things that Council must consider.

I was comfortable moving bi-weekly green bin and blue bag recycling to the budget adjustment list for discussion. I haven't decided which way I will vote until we can have debate on all the suggested service changes as part of the overall budget list at the end of April.

STREET SWEEPING AROUND LAKE MICMAC & LAKE BANOOK



Included in the 2021 HRM Transportation Public Works budget is an expansion of the street sweeping frequency on the streets around Lake Banook and Lake Micmac. This change is coming out of the Banook-Micmac Pollution Study. The study recommended more frequent street sweeping to gather up materials that collect on our streets before they have a chance to wash into the lakes. Details still to come on what that will look like and what streets will be covered, but I was very happy to see this built into the staff prepared budget.



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AMENDMENTS FOR BOULEVARD GARDENING



By-law S-312 has been adopted, amending [By-law S-300, Respecting Streets](#). These changes will set updated guidelines for the placement of boulevard gardens within the municipally owned public right of way.

During the [May 12, 2020 Regional Council](#), the CAO was directed to prepare the necessary By-Law and Administrative Order amendments to permit the placement of boulevard gardens, based on the guidelines outlined in the [staff report](#).

Regional Council’s discussions have highlighted the potential benefits of boulevard gardens and noted that many other cities have guidelines in place to permit them. The discussions also noted that consideration would be given to existing street uses, safety concerns, responsibilities of homeowners, and what the gardens would look like.

DARTMOUTH LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL / SOFTBALL REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN



AGES 4 TO 6 \$125

MINORS / MAJORS AGES 9 TO 12 \$230

COACHY KID PITCH AGES (6) 7 TO 8 \$180

BASEBALL / SOFTBALL GIRLS AGES 8 TO 12 \$230

WE HAVE PROGRAMS FOR BOYS AND GIRLS AGES 4 TO 12

GO TO OUR SITE (dartmouthlittleleague.net) AND CLICK REGISTRATION FOR MORE INFO AND TO REGISTER

Dartmouth Little League baseball summer registration is now open for boys and girls ages 4 to 12. Click on the [link](#) to register.

Shubie Park Pump Track 30 John Brenton Drive, Dartmouth

USE AT OWN RISK

- Biking can be a high- risk activity and can result in injury
- Use at your own risk
- Users should be aware of the dangers involved in practicing all forms of stunts
- A helmet must be worn and the use of other protective equipment is recommended
- Structures created by users without permission will be removed
- No motorized vehicles
- Keep your park clean
- Use trash cans
- Be courteous to others
- Do not use the park under snow, ice, or wet conditions
- Inspect the track before riding and ride within your limits
- Have fun and play safe!

TO ALL USERS OF THIS PARK

Park hours of operation 5 a.m. to 10 p.m.

In an emergency call 911 – For scheduling and maintenance call 311

Visit halifax.ca for further information on parks

HALIFAX





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RESPONSE TO COVID-19: UPDATE TO FACILITY BOOKINGS AND RECREATION PROGRAMMING

The Halifax Regional Municipality continues to monitor and respond to the rapidly evolving impacts of COVID-19. The following is an update on municipal services. As directed by the province, new public health guidelines took effect in the Halifax Regional Municipality as of Friday, March 5.

Spectators will be permitted at municipally owned facilities. The following arenas will be increasing their spectator capacity as follows:

- BMO Centre: Pads A, B and C (50), Pad D (100)
- Centennial Arena (50)
- Cole Harbour Place: Scotia 1 (85), Scotia 2 (35)
- Eastern Shore Arena (60)
- Halifax Civic Arena (75)
- Halifax Forum Arena (100)
- LeBrun Arena (50)
- RBC Centre: Pads A, B and D (50), Pad C (100)
- Sackville Sports Stadium (50)
- Spryfield Arena (50)
- St. Margaret's Centre: Fountain (100), Smith (50)
- Zatzman Sportsplex (100)

Although provincial restrictions will allow for up to 100 spectators, not every venue can safely accommodate those numbers at this time. Staffing, configuration and size of the venue must be considered on a case-by-case basis. Safety remains our top priority.

Rental groups will continue to be responsible for COVID-19 screening and tracking of all spectators. No food or drink is permitted, and masks must be worn at all times. For more information and to review full regulations, [visit the website](#).

For spectator capacities in other facilities, please call your local facility.

ELLENVALE RUN REHABILITATION

Halifax Water is planning to complete both Phase 4 and Phase 5 construction this coming season. Phase 4 is near Waltdale Drive and Phase 5 is near Belle Vista Drive/Wanda Lane (see the sketch below).

The soft works will likely start around mid-May with heavier work starting around June 1st as per the environmental permitting. The work is expected to be completed by the end of September but could extend into October.



DARTMOUTH NORTH CHRISTIAN FOOD BANK

NOW OPEN
EVERY THURSDAY
FROM
10:00am – 1:00pm



ST. ANTHONY'S PARISH HALL
27 FARRELL STREET



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SPRING REGISTRATION FOR RECREATION PROGRAMMING

The Halifax Regional Municipality is advising residents that summer recreation programs have once again been planned in accordance with public health guidelines.

Currently, Public Health is allowing for multiple cohorts of 15 children in day camps, and camp activities can be provided in both an indoor and outdoor setting while maintaining physical distancing protocols. Both full-day and half-day camps are planned to be offered for this summer. If there are changes to COVID-19 guidelines, staff will work with Public Health to assess and adjust programs as needed to balance the safety of all participants and staff.

Registration is currently scheduled to begin at 10 a.m. each of the following days for all ages:

Day camps and dryland programs

- Wednesday, May 5 – July programs
- Wednesday, June 2 – August programs

Indoor/outdoor pool and beach programs

- Thursday, June 3 – July programs
- Wednesday, July 14 – August programs

Detailed information on registration and programs will be viewable online as of Thursday, April 22 on halifax.ca/myREC.

Participants are encouraged to register by phone at (902)-490-6666, online or in-person at their local recreation centre. If registering for programs at municipal partner recreation facilities, please contact those facilities directly.

Residents are reminded they may continue to use REC at Home which offers a variety of activities that you can enjoy with your family - from arts and crafts, to at-home fitness workouts.

For more information on recreation programming, visit halifax.ca/myREC.

THE VILLAGE ON MAIN

Please visit The Village on Main [website](#) for updates on property tax relief for small businesses, affordable housing developments, new businesses in the area, community initiatives, and more!

NORTH GROVE APRIL PROGRAMS

The month of April holds many exciting community workshops for you to enjoy. Family play groups, income tax clinics, and story times, there is something for everyone. For more details, click [here](#) to view their April calendar.



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ELECTRIC VEHICLE REBATE PROGRAM NOW OPEN



Nova Scotia's electric vehicle and electric bike rebate program's

website is now live. The province is strengthening its commitment to address climate change and grow the economy with its new Electric Vehicle Rebate program. The program is now accepting applications for rebates on new and used electric vehicles, plug-in hybrids and electric pedal assist bicycles (e-bikes). The intent of this program is to allow Nova Scotians of varying income levels to take part in the shift to clean transportation. Buyers of new electric vehicles who qualify for the federal government's Zero-Emission Vehicles program are also eligible for the provincial rebate. Quick Facts: The rebate amounts for vehicles are: \$3,000 for new, fully electric vehicles, \$2,000 for used electric vehicles and new plug-in hybrid electric vehicles, and \$1,000 for used plug-in hybrid electric vehicles. Please visit www.electrifyns.ca to find answers to all your EV and eBike questions.

Muslims. There will be a call to prayer done through a speaker outside of the mosques in HRM during the month of Ramadan. One call to prayer each day at sunset (which is at 8pm and by the end of the month it would be around 8:30pm). In addition to that, there will be a call to prayer during Friday's congregation which is around 1:30pm (will happen four times a month).



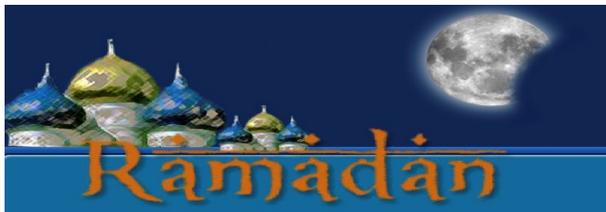
You will soon see "Do Not Feed the Wildlife" signs in Shubie Park. People are leaving bird seed on rocks, stumps & on the trails. This is a problem for dogs, especially in the off-leash areas where dogs are eating the seed/corn which can cause digestive issues

for the animals.

WATER QUALITY SAMPLES OF MUNICIPAL LAKES

Fifty-two lakes within the Halifax Regional Municipality were tested for water quality on Wednesday, March 31. These water quality samples will be collected by helicopter and by boat. Residents should be advised that the helicopter will be travelling at low altitude to obtain these samples.

Testing in this method is conducted every 10 years to test for nutrients, chlorophyll a and heavy metals. This work is separate from the supervised beach water quality testing program, which is completed weekly in July and August at all municipally-supervised beaches. For more information on water testing locations, view the [list.](#)



Ramadan for the year 2021 starts on the evening of **Monday, April 12th** lasting 30 days and ending at sundown on **Tuesday, May 11th**. Islamic holidays always begin at sundown and end at sundown the following day/days ending the holiday or festival. Ramadan is the ninth month of the Islamic calendar. It is a month of fasting, prayer, giving and self-evaluation observed by



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CITY NATURE CHALLENGE 2021 – APRIL 30TH TO MAY 9TH



Nature lovers take notice! This spring, get your cameras and hiking boots and head out to your favourite spots in the municipality to take part in the City Nature Challenge 2021!

The City Nature Challenge is an international effort for people to find and document plants and wildlife in cities across the globe. It's a bioblitz-style competition where cities are in a contest against each other to see who can make the most observations of nature, who can find the most species, and who can engage the most people.

Whether you are an avid naturalist or a dog walker, everyone can participate. It's easy, fun, and will encourage you to get outdoors. Check out their [website](#) for more information.

ADDED TO POTENTIAL BUDGET LIST - HAZARDOUS WASTE

I moved to add \$115,000 to the budget adjustment list to add six mobile household special waste events this summer. Those are events where HRM sets up a pop-up recycling depot (like we see at the Micmac Mall parking lot) for items like paint, chemicals, light bulbs, batteries etc. There are already 12 planned for the year ahead, this would be an additional 6 events.

The main special waste depot is on the Halifax side of the harbour in Bayers Lake. I believe the extra events are necessary to fend off illegal dumping. These household special waste events were cancelled last year due to COVID-19.



Did you know? Our recreation centres, community centres, terminals, and all **Halifax Public Libraries** locations offer

free menstrual products that are re-stocked daily. This is one way we can help address period poverty. To see locations, visit our [website](#)



You are invited to the next...



Dartmouth North Zoom Community Conversation

Thursday, April 8
10:30am – 11:45am

Please join us online and meet the members of your **Dartmouth Community Health Team!**

The Community Health Team offers programs on nutrition and weight management, physical activity, mental wellness, and parenting.



The team will answer your questions and share info about free programs and services available to residents of Dartmouth North.

Look forward to seeing you!

TO REGISTER AND RECEIVE A ZOOM LINK:
email MATT@BETWEENTHEBRIDGES.CA
(if you need support using Zoom, please call Matt 902-488-7446)

Hosted by the Between the Bridges Residents Roundtable



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**DISTRICT 6 HARBOURVIEW – BURNSIDE –
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Currently serving on:

Harbour East Marine Drive Community Council

Regional Centre Community Council

Board of Police Commissioners

Environment and Sustainability Committee

Executive Standing Committee

Special Events Advisory Committee

Shubenacadie Canal Commission

Liaison to HRM Acadian Francophone Community

SAC for Prince Andrew High School

NS Solid Waste Resource Management