



COUNCILLOR CATHY DEAGLE GAMMON

DISTRICT 1 ONLINE NEWS

WAVERLEY - FALL RIVER - MUSQUODOBOIT VALLEY

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DEAR RESIDENTS

May has certainly been a month of learning and more virtual meetings.

My learnings included a great introduction to the Collins Park Watershed Advisory Committee, two sessions on Governance in Municipal Government, RCMP strategic alignment sessions, a NS Federation of Municipalities Regional Caucus meeting, NSUARB orientation, an introduction to Atlantic Gold, sitting in (virtually) on the Board of Police Commissioners meeting as well as the Community Planning & Economic Development Standing Committee meeting aka CPED, attending the AGM for the Waverley Heritage Society, the AGM for the Greater Burnside Business Association (GBBA) and rounding out with the great company of the Middle Musquodoboit Agricultural Society.

The usual suspect of meetings also included two Regional Council meetings, North West Planning Advisory Committee, North West Community Council, Accessibility Advisory Committee, Audit & Finance Standing Committee, It was a pleasure to Chair my



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first Grants Committee meeting where we confirmed the schedule of meetings and had our orientation.

I met with the Parks and Recreation on future capital needs and am excited to explore our district more and learn about what is available and create a 'wish list' to work from- and yes it already has a few great items!

My highlight for May was hosting a virtual meeting at the request of a youth in our community who has a lived experience with mental illness. Our MLA Bill Horne, our MP Darrell Samson, and front-line professionals and staff were also in attendance. The objective was to listen, to learn and see what action we can take to be more supportive of Youth in our community experiencing mental illness in any form.

Stay tuned for an article coming soon in a local magazine!

Take Care Stay Safe

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OUR JUNE GRADUATES



It's time to celebrate many years of hard work and be proud of all that you have achieved. Wishing you all the very best as you complete this important stage of your life and begin on a new journey that will see you reach new heights!

Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.

Nelson Mandela

June 2021

HRM REGIONAL PLAN REVIEW



The Halifax Regional Municipal Planning Strategy (Regional Plan) is a strategic document built on a common vision and principles for the municipality to achieve balanced and sustainable growth. Originally adopted in 2006, the Regional Plan provided the first comprehensive guide for future growth for the entire municipality following amalgamation

This [website](#) is the place where you can access content, materials and supporting research for the Halifax Regional Municipal Planning Strategy Plan Review. You can also find out about the project process, including public engagement activities. We welcome your input and participation in the process.

THE COVID-19 VACCINE HELPS PROTECT YOU

& YOUR FAMILY.

A safe and effective vaccine to protect against COVID-19 is now available.

Regular and drive-thru appointments are available for eligible Nova Scotians.



FIGHT COVID-19 WITH A JOB!

Eligible Nova Scotians can book vaccine appointments across the municipality. The shot isn't just for you; it's to protect your

HALIFAX



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family, your friends, and our community! Many Nova Scotians can book a COVID-19 vaccine appointment online today.

Regular appointments:

<https://novascotia.flow.canimmunize.ca/en/9874123-19-7418965>

Drive-thru appointments:

<https://novascotia.flow.canimmunize.ca/en/8675309>

Or, call 1-833-797-7772 to book by phone (7am-10pm, 7 days a week)

Stay up to date with the latest updates and restrictions on COVID-19:

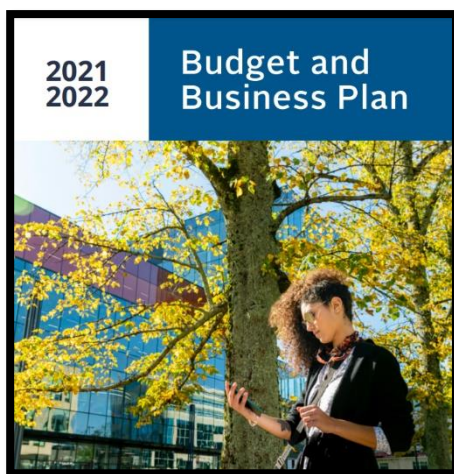
www.novascotia.ca/coronavirus

For provincial restrictions, isolation guidance, symptoms and testing information, vaccine information for Nova Scotians, and more.

www.canada.ca/coronavirus *For travel and immigration information, federal financial supports, national virus, and vaccine data, and more.*

WHAT'S IN A BUDGET? HRM'S 2021/22 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

On May 4, my Halifax Regional Council colleagues and I approved the [2021/2022 municipal Operating Budget](#) at a total of \$1 billion. The budget outlines the priorities for council and the



municipality.

Operating a large municipality like ours each year is no small task. Our communities are developed, sustained and improved thanks to the funding contained with each year's budget; it helps our city deliver on many projects, programs and services that will support economic growth, improve our environment, expand our transportation systems, and build on the strengths of our vibrant and diverse communities.

The budget funds and provides a plan for the continuity and improvement of many things that impact our daily lives, including fire services, neighbourhood traffic-calming projects, snow clearing, recreational programming, and much more.

This next year's budget is very much focused on investing in transit (electric buses, Mill Cove ferry service), the environment (HalifACT 2050 for climate action, urban forestry plan), active living (park land acquisition, strategic active transportation projects), and safety (road safety improvements, traffic-calming projects for neighbourhoods). HRM remains in a healthy financial position and has weathered the pandemic even better than forecast, thanks to federal and provincial support to households and businesses and on-going public investment projects. Looking to the future, our municipality will have the required flexibility and resiliency to thrive, despite any post-pandemic uncertainties.

For residents, the 2021/2022 budget only results in a minimal residential tax rate increase of 1 per cent, or a \$21 total increase to the average single-family home tax bill. To learn more about the budget process, view a presentation about HRM's budget, and review more details on what is included in the 2021/2022 budget, visit halifax.ca/budget.



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EMBRACE THE OUTDOORS, SAFELY! HRM PARKS AND TRAILS ARE CLOSE TO HOME

Staying close to home doesn't mean we need to hibernate as our weather continues to get more beautiful each day. While adhering to public health restrictions, it's a great time to connect with nature, and explore our local parks and trails.

An [interactive parks and outdoor spaces map](#) is available on our municipality's website. You may be surprised to discover just how many parks and trails may not be far from your own neighbourhood. There are [26 municipal trails](#) of varying difficulty and accessibility listed on the HRM website, for residents to walk, wheel, or cycle on.

And while the [Public Gardens](#) are a renowned gem of our city, there are also opportunities to enjoy (or create) [community gardens](#) throughout other parts of the municipality. Community gardens provide a shared opportunity for residents to grow food and produce floral or landscape displays.

As we've realized even more than ever during the pandemic, spaces such as parks, natural areas and community gardens promote physical, mental, and social health and tangible well-being for all. Learn more about these benefits, and find out more about exploring nature in the municipality [here](#).

Check out the **Musquodoboit Trailway, it's** made up of:

- North/South Granite Ridge Trails
- Gibraltar Rock Loop Trail
- Admiral Lake Loop Trail
- Bayer Lake Loop Trail



Pic is from the [website](#)

PARKS AND RECREATION UPDATE

Summer Registration Has Been Postponed

More information to follow



While facilities are challenged by COVID here are some ideas :

Enjoy a community project with one of our free "Together Apart" neighbourhood placemaking kits! Our first available kit offers free seeds that neighbours can grow with one another throughout their communities. You can choose from vegetable seeds or flower seeds and full sun or partial shade seeds.

These kits are designed to bring neighbours together for a common purpose (while staying physically distant) in lieu of our regular neighbourhood placemaking projects. The kits aren't intended for individual use, but as a way for neighbours to work



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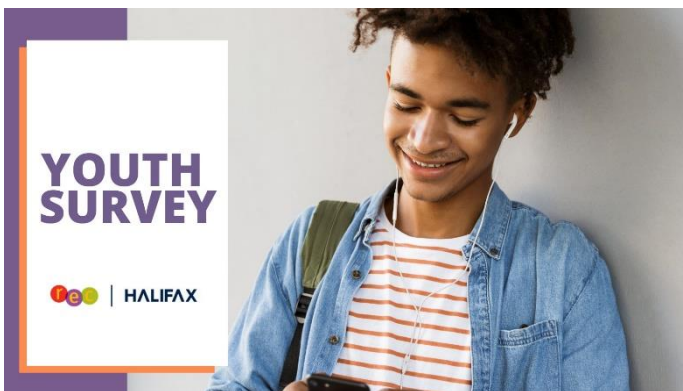
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together and enjoy a group project safely. Each seed kit contains thousands of seeds that can be shared among multiple households, an entire street, or even an entire neighbourhood.

To apply, visit halifax.ca/placemaking and fill out an application form telling how you plan to use one of our kits to bring your community together.



Visit Rec at Home for an ever-growing selection of free online content for the whole family to enjoy – including arts & crafts, fitness classes, outdoor activities, and more: halifax.ca/recathome



If you're 13-24 and want to help shape the next municipal youth services plan, visit halifax.ca/YSR to learn more and take our quick survey. Not only will you get to have your say, but you could win great prizes too!

MEAGHER'S GRANT COMMUNITY MEETING

May 3rd – 2021 Postponed due to COVID lockdown, we will reschedule pending the change in Public Health Guidelines.

RURAL RECREATION SURVEY

There is still time to complete the survey – deadline June 13th, 2021

ICYMI: We're inviting residents to participate in a Rural Recreation Strategy Survey. This survey will provide analysis on future needs for parks and rec services in the rural areas of the municipality.



For more information and to take the survey, visit: halifax.ca/surveys

TRAFFIC CALMING NOTICE

Residents of Ingram Drive received a Notice of Traffic Calming and wanted to know why and where!

WHY?

After a review of the speed and volume data, and other features of the roadway Ingram Drive was chosen for traffic calming measures.

Speed Tables were selected as the appropriate traffic calming measure for Ingram Drive. Speed tables encourage slower speeds of travel by causing discomfort for drivers travelling and higher speeds.

There is no negative effect on cyclists riding at moderate speeds, and there is no effect on resident access or on-street parking. With the construction of



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speed tables on Ingram Drive we expect slower vehicular speeds.

For more information regarding traffic calming HRM, please visit the website:

<https://www.halifax.ca/transportation/streets-sidewalks/traffic-calming-safer-streets>

WHERE?

We have six speed tables planned for Ingram Drive:

Between civic 31 and Lexington Ave

Between civics 71 and 75

Between civics 90 and 93

Near civic 118

Between civics 142 and 146

Between civics 186 and 198

Between civics 142 and 146. This location was selected for its close proximity to the playground at the corner of Ingram Drive and Davenport Ave.

The speed tables planned on Ingram drive are like those found on Lexington Ave and Concord Ave.

The signposts are placed in close proximity to the edge of the asphalt to prevent vehicles from driving on the gravel shoulder to avoid the vertical deflections.



CURBSIDE GIVEAWAY WEEKEND PAUSED

We can't be free of our unwanted

household items just yet. Due to Public Health advisories, Curbside Giveaway Weekend has been postponed until further notice. Learn about Curbside Give Away etiquette, tips, and stay tuned for new dates [here](#).

ENVIRONMENT WEEK: MAY 30 - JUNE 5

Halifax Regional Municipality is very much focused on supporting our environment. This includes short- and long-term initiatives, including creating and acting on [HalifACT](#), Halifax's climate action movement, investing in electric buses and acquiring more park land (in [Budget 2021/22](#)), and much more. A greener Halifax is a better Halifax for us all. With that in mind, Environment Week is something I'd like to highlight!

Established in 1971, Canadian Environment Week celebrates our country's environmental accomplishments and encourages us all to do our part in conserving and protecting the environment. Canadian Environment Week occurs the first week of June each year to coincide with World Environment Day (June 5). Let's consider how we can each mark this important week – just like planting one tree, having one conversation can spark big things in time.



2021 Theme: Ecosystem Restoration

The theme for World Environment Day 2021 is "Ecosystem Restoration" and will see the launch of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration. Ecosystem restoration can take many forms: Growing trees, greening cities, rewilding gardens, changing diets or cleaning up rivers and coasts.



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GREEN AND BLUE COLLECTION UPDATE



Weekly green cart collection of your organic waste is returning for July, August, and September.

However, **blue bag**

recyclable collection will occur once every two weeks. Both changes come into effect on July 2, 2021.

Sign up for weekly collection reminders, get a refresher on what goes where, check out recycling tips and much more, [here](#). You can also download the free *Halifax Recycles* app on your Android or iOS device to have waste info at the palm of your hand. And don't forget to [follow Halifax Recycles](#) on Facebook!

I would like to particularly highlight District 1's own **Tia Abdel Massih** this year's award recipient from **Musquodoboit Rural High School** and **Xavier Nathaniel Paris** from **Lockview High School**. Congratulations on your well-deserved recognition!

PREPARING AND SUBMITTING PETITIONS IN HALIFAX

Are you thinking about creating a petition to submit to [Regional Council](#), a [community council](#), a [standing committee](#), or [advisory board or committee, or commission](#)? Learn about formats for petitions, mandatory information to include, and how to submit your completed petition.

[Find your link here](#)

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2021 HRM YOUTH CITIZENSHIP AWARD RECIPIENTS

Each year the Halifax Regional Municipality's Citizenship Award is presented to outstanding Grade 9 students in our municipality. Each school has only one award recipient, and schools choose their award recipient based on leadership qualities, service in the school and community, and academic performance. Citizenship Award recipients receive a special plaque with the HRM crest, along with their name and the year engraved in it.

I was very pleased to take part in the 2021 Citizenship Awards that took place during the virtual May 18th session of Regional Council. This year, 38 students in total received this award of distinction. I extend my congratulations to each award recipient; your hard work and service to our community is so appreciated.

June 2021

ACCESSIBILITY STRATEGY APPROVED BY COUNCIL

A more accessible municipality is better for us all!



As a member of the Accessibility Advisory Committee I was pleased to make the motion:

That Halifax Regional Council :

1. Adopt the Accessibility Strategy as set out in Attachment 1 of the staff Report dates April 19th, 2021;



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2. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to carry out the actions contained in the Accessibility Strategy as part of the multi-year budgeting and business planning process and
3. Request that the Chief Administrative Officer provide annual progress reports on the implementation of the Accessibility Strategy to Regional Council.

Seconded by Paul Russell Councillor District 15, Lower Sackville – unanimously passed!

This strategy will make Halifax a more accessible place to live, work and play. 31 key items are outlined in the strategy, which will be actioned over the next nine years, by 2030.

Accessibility is a broad term that impacts us all in some ways. It’s an issue that concerns Nova Scotians of all ages, from those with disabilities to parents travelling with their children in strollers to seniors in our communities.

The [recommendations](#) to create a more accessible HRM are varied, in order to consider each category of Nova Scotia’s [Accessibility Act](#). The *Accessibility Act* recognizes accessibility as a human right and sets a goal of an accessible Nova Scotia by 2030. Now that this strategy is in motion, we have the framework we need to achieve this important milestone.

We’ll be making accessibility improvements in several key areas outlined in the *Accessibility Act*: built environment, employment, public transportation and infrastructure, information, and communication, along with goods and services.

Here are some of the highlights of HRM’s Accessibility Strategy I look forward to seeing implemented:

- Improving Access-a-bus service and identifying how to increase the number of accessible taxis

- Using Rick Hansen Gold Certification standards for current and future infrastructure
- Improving accessible recreational offerings so that more people can participate
- Developing an accessibility “audit” (review) system for public facilities, playgrounds, and other infrastructure around the municipality
- Thorough employment equity reporting and data on employees with disabilities
- Training hiring managers on workplace accessibility and accommodating for abilities/disabilities
- Improving public awareness around snow removal
- Incorporating accessible recreation services, signage, walkways, and equipment (i.e. playgrounds)
- Having clear standards for municipal communications by developing an accessibility guide for municipal informational/promotional materials

You can learn more about the Accessibility Strategy’s highlights [here](#) (presentation shown to Regional Council on May 18, 2021 by HRM Diversity Manager, Tracey Jones-Grant), and read the full text of the plan [here](#).





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JUNE REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETINGS

There are three Regional Council meetings scheduled for June, which I look forward to participating in. These are in addition to several specific committee meetings. Check out the full schedule of upcoming meetings [here](#), and I invite you to [join us virtually!](#) Agendas and reports are available by noon on Fridays prior to the meeting date.

Regional Council meetings for June 2021 (subject to change):

- Tuesday, June 8th at 10:00 a.m.
- Tuesday, June 15th at 10:00 a.m. **(If required)**
- Tuesday, June 29th at 10:00 a.m.

DID YOU KNOW?

SPCA IN HRM



Offices in Burnside support the residents in the region with many services including:

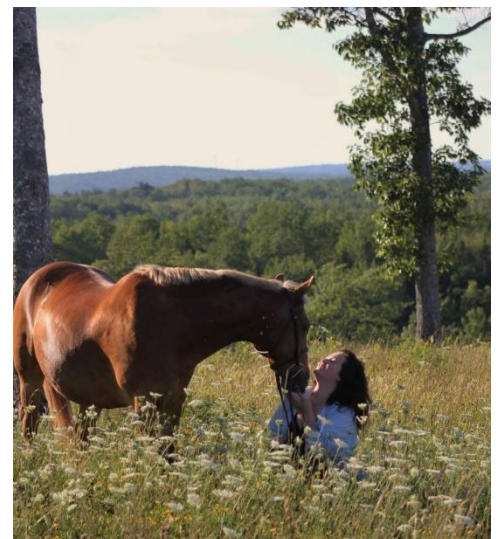
- [Pet Pantry](#) - Where families can turn when they're in need of pet food and litter
- [SPCA Veterinary Hospital](#) - For all families, with subsidized services for those in need.
- [Paws & Support](#) - Emergency boarding for families in temporary emergency situations:

leaving domestic violence, urgent hospitalization, and temporary homelessness.

- [Adoption](#) – An opportunity to add your next family member to your home. Animals have all been fully vetted, microchipped and temp tested. The adoption fees cover less than 50% of the cost of care.
- [Animal Surrender](#) Accepting animals into care regardless of their age or health. We do not euthanize animals for space. Unexpected life situations happen and the SPCA strives to be approachable, non-judgemental, and understanding in assisting families and stray animals.
- [P.U.P Program](#) Prevent Unwanted Pregnancies is here for families who find their pet unexpectedly pregnant. The program will fix the female dog or cat for free, AND fully vet and find loving homes for the puppies or kittens.
- [TNR \(Trap Neuter Return\)](#) - Feral cats, who live outside, are humanely trapped, spayed/neutered, ear-tipped and returned to their local colony or a barn home.

TODD HILL FARM

Here at Todd Hill Farm, our main goal is to foster a calm and safe environment for our students to engage in equestrian recreation. We also aim to make horseback riding





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accessible to all through educating our students and their parents on foundations such as Jump-Start.

Todd Hill Farm officially opened its doors as a non-profit back in 2010 and was an instant hit. Our horses are relaxed, spending most of their time hanging out in their paddocks and snacking on hay. Most of them are experienced show horses, and they are all the best of teachers.

The owners of Todd Hill Farm, John, and Karen, treat each student, parent, and staff member as if they were family, and have created a welcoming and warm community.

We have a variety of different levels of students, from those who are just starting out in our Grassroots program, all the way up to those who have been riding for their whole lives! We even offer a program called "Hands on Horses" for those who may not want to learn to ride but like to be around the horses. "Hands on Horses" is guided by Dawn, our certified equine-assisted learning (EAL) facilitator. If you've never tried EAL, it is a truly calming and educational experience.

Todd Hill Farm is also known for our camps! During school breaks, such as the Holiday Break or Summer, we host camps where children can learn about horsemanship, stable management, and even how to ride! I remember helping with the summer camps as a teen, and everyone always had so much fun.

Todd Hill Farm is growing, and we can't wait to share all the plans which we have with our students and community!

Submitted by Katelyn McElman Program Manager

PICTURES WANTED!

With all our virtual meetings, many Councillors have pictures of their District as virtual backgrounds. While I do have some, I would love to have more.



This nice pic is from Pat Clahane of the Lakeview public access park and gently sloping path that goes to the CN track

Please send me your community photos, so that I'm able to feature them. Please provide a description of each photo you send. When I post it as a screen background, I'll let everyone know where it came from and who was gracious enough to share it with us all.



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CURRENTLY SERVING ON:

Regional Council, North West Community Council and the following boards and committees:

- Environment and Sustainability Committee
- Audit and Finance Committee (Vice Chair)
- Grants Committee (Chair)
- Halifax Water Commission
- North West Planning Advisory Committee
- Accessibility Advisory Committee
- Community Committees
- Halifax International Airport Authority
- Goffs Quarry Community Liaison

CONTACT INFORMATION

Cathy Deagle Gammon, Councillor
 District 1 – Waverley – Fall River –
 Musquodoboit Valley
 PO. Box 1749, Halifax NS, B3J 3A5
 Phone: 902-717-2718

Email: Cathy.deaglegammon@halifax.ca
 Website: <https://www.halifax.ca/city-hall/districts-councillors/district-1/councillor-cathy-deagle-gammon>

Council Constituency Coordinator:
 Stephanie Brown
 Phone: 902-490-4090
 Email: browns@halifac.ca

SIGN UP TO MY E-NEWSLETTER

I'll be regularly sending out e-newsletters to community members. If you'd like to keep up to

date with my Councillor news, please get in touch with Stephanie Brown, my Council Constituent Coordinator at:

Email: browns@halifax.ca or 902-490-4090

311 CONTACT CENTRE

More than a telephone number, 311 is your direct connection to municipal services. Call 311 and speak to our helpful operators for information about anything HRM-related: property taxes, illegally parked vehicles, recreation services, pet licenses, by-law concerns, litter and more:

Monday to Friday 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
 Saturday & Sunday 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Or email: ContactUs@311.halifax.ca

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY - JUNE 20TH 2021



Although my Dad has been gone many years, he is always with me! Happy Father's Day !