



## **Parks and Recreation Update for Accessibility Advisory Committee 2021 Town Hall**

Themes:

Increased accessibility for Newcomers (signage, interpreters, diversity of staff)

Increasing the diversity of participant populations (marketing, creating welcoming environment, feedback sessions, diversity of staff, diversity of programming)

Increased physical accessibility of facilities (change rooms/washrooms, equipment at some beaches, adapted equipment)

Decreased barrier of financial considerations (affordable access program, free lifeguard lessons at HRM pools and free swim lessons at beaches)

Community Partnership programs: Easter seals partnership at LeBrun BMO (learn to sledge) and St. Andrews (learn to wheel, pilot site for the first Jr. NBA Wheelchair basketball program in Canada), Lakeshore curling club partnership at Sackville Sports Stadium (wheelchair/stick curling), Playing and Learning Together at Sackville Sports Stadium and Captain William Spry (summer program and afterschool program for children/youth with disabilities), partnered with Dal to offer volunteer opportunities for humanities students

HRM run programs: Able to offer 111 children additional support at summer camp in 2021, currently offering Inclusion swimming lessons, Ready for Rec seasonal programs (children with disabilities and ISANS partnership) including expanding our highly popular Ready for Rec "Outdoor Fun" program run with AEC, 1:1 inclusion support for programming.

# HALIFAX

Inclusion department has increased capacity 1 employee to 2. Started to work with community around adapted equipment loans. One of our hippocampes was in the BlueNose 10k with a runner this past weekend.