



COUNCILLOR TRISH PURDY
DISTRICT 4 ONLINE NEWS
COLE HARBOUR - WESTPHAL - LAKE LOON - CHERRY BROOK

DEAR RESIDENTS,

Happy December District 4!

Tis the season to enjoy family, friends, and food! I hope you will be able to take time this month to slow down and notice the little things that bring you joy and gratitude. Sometimes it is the small things that make a world of difference. I hope you will also reach out to someone who may be lonely and offer a kind word or a friendly smile. This time of year can be hard for many folks.

I am excited to announce I am collaborating with MLA Angela Simmonds to bring a new program to our community in the New Year. Square Roots is coming to District 4 (and area) and we will be looking for volunteers! Stay tuned for more information.

As always, feel free to reach out to me with any of your municipal concerns or questions. I am always happy to hear from you.

From my family to yours - Seasons Greetings, Merry Christmas, and a very Happy New Year!

Sincerely,





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TAKE TIME TO RECOGNIZE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

I look forward to recognizing and celebrating the International Day of People with Disabilities (IDPWD) on December 3. The IDPWD flag will be raised in recognition of the day at City Hall.

This day aims to raise awareness and mobilize support for the dignity, rights, and well-being of persons with disabilities. This year's theme is Fighting for rights in the post-COVID era.

HRM is committed to improving accessibility across the region and in its programs and services. In support of these efforts, the municipality's Office of Diversity & Inclusion/ANSAIO has developed a fulsome Accessibility Strategy, which was unanimously approved by Regional Council in May this year.

Learn more about the municipality's dedication to advancing access and inclusion in our community:

<https://www.halifax.ca/home/terms/accessibility>

For more information about the International Day of People with Disabilities, visit www.idpwd.org

We all play a part in shaping an integrated, accessible future.



INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

December 2021

COLE HARBOUR WINGS U11 A HOCKEY TEAM



Huge thank you to the Cole Harbour Wings U11 A hockey team! They did a cleanup around Cole Harbour place this past weekend. Thank you for your dedication in helping to keep our community clean.

SHAPE YOUR CITY: SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS ON SHORT-TERM RENTALS

Share your thoughts on proposed regulations for Short-Term Rentals (like Airbnb or VRBO) in the municipality by filling out a survey.

The survey will be available until December 17. Click [here](#) to learn about the project and take the survey.



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JUST FOOD ACTION PLAN SURVEY



HRM and the Halifax Food Policy Alliance have teamed up to develop JustFOOD: an action plan for the Halifax region, working towards a more healthy, just, and sustainable food system built on existing strengths and community wisdom.

They are seeking input from community members to help shape actions for positive change in the food system! I encourage you to head over to the [website](#) to have your say by completing their Action Survey.

COMMUNITY GRANTS

HRM’s Community Grams Program offers funding for community projects led by registered, non-profit organizations and charities throughout the Halifax region. There are project grants of up to \$5,000 and capital grants of up to \$25,000.

While you cannot apply yet for 2022, you can contact the Grants office for general inquiries at this time: NonProfitGrants@halifax.ca. Applications will be accepted starting in January and up until March 31, 2022.

A wide variety of projects are eligible for the grants such as publishing maps or guidebooks, creating interpretive panels, buying safety equipment, or renovating a building for community use.

2022 VOLUNTEER AWARD NOMINATIONS



Do you know an outstanding volunteer who gives back to your community? You can nominate an adult, youth, or group for the 2022 HRM Volunteer Awards until December 15th, 2021. [Nomination forms](#) are available now.

HRM honours our community volunteers every spring during National Volunteer Week. Successful nominees will be invited to attend a ceremony and reception to receive their award with the Mayor and members of Regional Council.

Winter Registration Dates

Dec 1 - Winter Dryland Registration
Dec 9 - Winter Aquatic & Skating Registration



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EMERGENCY ACCOMODATIONS UPDATE



Updates are currently issued on a weekly basis to provide progress reports on efforts to establish emergency accommodations sites in Dartmouth and Halifax. These updates are part of HRM's ongoing efforts to ensure you are informed with the most up-to-date information.

The update from November 23rd can be found [here](#).

These updates will be provided until modular units have been installed at both sites by the municipality and the Province of Nova Scotia has begun to place individuals at the sites and provide wrap around services. Depending upon the status of progress, frequency of updates may vary.



Helping Nova Scotians in need with home heating costs.

The Home Energy Assistance Top-Up (HEAT) Fund provides up to \$400 for these income thresholds:

- \$29,000 for a 1-person household
- \$47,703 for a 2-4 person household
- \$67,937 for households with 5+ people

Apply **online** or by **phone**:
www.SalvationArmy.ca/Maritime/Heat
 902-422-3435

The Fund is proudly administered by The Salvation Army.

HALIFAX AND THE YMCA: WORKING TO KEEP YOU SAFE THIS WINTER

Removing snow around your property can be a challenging – or even impossible – task for many people. There is help available: the Halifax Regional Municipality provides an annual contribution of \$400,000 in support of the YMCA for its Snow Removal Program for Seniors and Persons with Disabilities.



The program does NOT apply to driveway clearing, but helps clear snow from steps and walkways.

To find out more about this program and to apply, please call the YMCA at 902.483.3678 or visit the YMCA [online](#).

UPCOMING REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETINGS

There are two Regional Council meetings scheduled for December:

- Tuesday, December 7th at 10am
- Tuesday, December 14th at 10am

We have now resumed in-person Regional Council meetings. Meetings are also broadcast live on Eastlink Community TV and [online](#).



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HRM'S ONGOING COMMITMENT TO PUBLIC DATA ACCESS

As part of Halifax Regional Municipality's commitment to improving citizen engagement and enhancing transparency and accountability to its residents, the municipality is pleased to provide public access to its data. [Open Data](#) is a permanent service provided to citizens and businesses to access data free of charge.

The Municipality recently released five new datasets:

- Bike Amenities;
- Cityworks Service Requests;
- Cityworks Service Requests Custom Fields;
- Road Safety Countermeasures Tracking; and,
- Traffic Calming Infrastructure.

The addition of these five sets brings the total number of open data datasets to 165. Additionally, other datasets have been updated, including building permits from the new permitting & licensing application, construction permits from the new permitting & licensing application, and HRM Tax Rates – adding in new rates for 2021 (this dataset is updated annually).

A wide range of data can be sourced for free through the catalogue, including transit routes and schedule data, solid waste collection schedules, and area rates. New data releases occur several times throughout the year.

The Open Data initiative was launched in early 2014 to help improve resident engagement and enhance transparency on municipal data. The program was formalized by Regional Council later that year through the adoption of [Administrative Order 2014-006-ADM Respecting Open Data](#).

REINSTATING BELLS TO HALIFAX CITY HALL

Real bells have been reinstalled at City Hall, and they are ringing! This is the first time that real bells have rang at City Hall in almost 100 years, after the original bell was damaged during the Halifax Explosion in 1917. Since 1995, it's been a recording of Westminster Abbey. Learn more about this project and check out some photos [here](#).

The two bells, one quite possibly an original bell of City Hall, offer historical significance and a traditional sound experience to everyone in Halifax.





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MY ROAD HAS GOTTEN NARROWER-WHY?



Q: I've noticed some streets around the municipality are narrower than they once were. Why is this done?

A: Engineering improvements like street narrowing are part of the municipality's ongoing initiatives to improve road safety. Traffic calming helps make neighbourhoods safer for non-drivers:

- Curb extensions and/or raised medians narrow the road width. This reduces vehicle speeds by making the road feel more constrained, making it safer for people to walk, roll, and cycle in their community.
- Curb extensions, located at intersections, reduce the crossing distance for pedestrians and increase mutual visibility between pedestrians and motorists. These modified roadways are designed to have minimal impact on resident access, buses, emergency vehicles and maintenance vehicles, and are designed to accommodate turning movements for larger vehicles.

• I am aware that while these changes are intended to improve overall safety, cyclists can sometimes feel squeezed on these narrower sections. While these measures slow down motorists, I urge users of the road to respect each other - and the rules of the road.

• While municipal staff work hard to notify and engage residents on these changes, it is possible that you may notice a newly narrowed road and were not sure why it was done. I hope this helps to explain why this work happens, and I always appreciate resident feedback as our community evolves.

RCMP Road Safety Stats
October, 2021 District 4
Cole Harbour - Westphal - Lake Loon - Cherry Brook

739 calls for service in October
Up 36.35% vs. Oct, 2020

59 Summary Offence Tickets (vs. 38 in Oct, 2020)
 • 25 aggressive driving, 4 cellphone, 23 other MVA (i.e. no insurance), 6 speeding, 1 stunting

202 Proactive Assignments (vs. 106 in Oct, 2020)

54 Cellphone/impaired/Seatbelt/Speeding checkpoints

198 Traffic Stops (vs. 106 in Oct, 2020)

0 Impaired Driving Charge (vs. 7 in Oct, 2020), 2 Impaired Suspensions (no change from last year)

23 Motor Vehicle Accidents (vs. 19 in Oct, 2020)
 • Of this, 2 involved injuries

PLEASE DRIVE SAFELY



WINTER SAFETY TIPS FOR MOTORISTS

With winter weather arriving soon to our region, Halifax Regional Police is sharing some winter safety tips to help road users be winter ready.

Vehicle maintenance

- Plan ahead to ensure your vehicle is roadworthy. Check your safety inspection sticker and the tread on your tires. Keep a snowbrush or ice scraper in your vehicle and consider topping up your vehicle with extra windshield washer fluid. It's also a good idea to have a shovel and/or a bag of salt or sand in your vehicle in case you get stuck.

Driving safely for the road conditions

- Stay up to date with the weather conditions.
- Visibility is key. Before you hit the road, clear all snow from the roof, hood, license plate, windows, mirrors, lights, turn signals and cameras of your vehicle. Scrape/defrost your windshield if necessary.
- Be mindful that winter conditions create challenges for pedestrians who may need to walk in the roadway to avoid snow-covered or icy sidewalks.
- Never drive distracted. Keep your hands on the wheel and your eyes on the road. Watch for other road users, pedestrians, and cyclists.

- Adjust your speed to the conditions. Leave extra space between you and the vehicle in front of you so that you can safely slow down and/or stop. Remember not to accelerate or brake too quickly when the roads are slippery.

Parking

- **Think before you park on the street.** When and where you park in the winter can have a big impact on clearing streets and sidewalks, which, in turn, can affect road safety. In Nova Scotia, vehicles can be towed at any time during the day or night on any day of the year if they are interfering with snow clearing operations, as per Section 139 of the Nova Scotia Motor Vehicle Act. In addition, the municipal overnight winter parking ban is in effect every year from Dec. 15 to March 31. It will be enforced only during declared weather events and ongoing clearing operations. When enforced, the parking ban is in effect from 1 a.m. until 6 a.m. [throughout the Regional Centre of the municipality](#). To learn more, visit our [website](#).
- To help make a responsible parking choice, ask yourself:
 - Is the overnight parking ban currently being enforced?
 - Is your vehicle causing a safety issue?
 - Is it making the road impassable?
 - Is it impeding snow operations underway in the area?

If the answer to any of these questions is yes, do not park on the street.



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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. Please be advised that the Community Council meeting taking place on December 2nd will be held in-person, at the Mic Mac Amateur Aquatic Club, 192 Prince Albert Road, Dartmouth. Meeting dates, time and location are subject to change. You can find agendas, report, and minutes [online](#).

COMMISSIONER OF OATHS

As Councillor, I am also a Commissioner of Oaths. While in office, I may administer oaths and take and receive affidavits, declarations and affirmations within the Province for use within the Province. If you require a Commissioner of Oaths, please contact me.

CONTACT

Should you wish to discuss municipal services or programs, please contact me at **trish.purdy@halifax.ca** or **902-240-3067**. For routine municipal matters, please call our **Citizen Contact Centre at 311**.

To reach my office, please call Emily Smith at **902-490-7177**.

For information on all things municipal, please visit our [website](#).



December 2021