



COUNCILLOR LISA BLACKBURN
DISTRICT 14 ONLINE NEWS
 MIDDLE/UPPER SACKVILLE - BEAVER BANK - LUCASVILLE

WELCOME FEBRUARY!



This month has twenty-eight days packed with opportunities to celebrate African Heritage, love of and for friends/family and our individual family heritage. Why? February is African Heritage month, has

Valentine's Day and Family Heritage Day! We also get to celebrate Sackville Snow Days and, on February 2nd, check to see if [Shubenacadie Sam](#) sees his shadow!

Keep reading for updates on matters including an opportunity for you to address Regional Council on the 2022/23 capital/operating budgets, opening of the HRM Community Grants 2022/23 program and much more!

My community office hours have been postponed until further notice. Contact me by Email at: Lisa.Blackburn@halifax.ca or call me at_ 902.579.7164.

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FEBRUARY MEETING DATES

The following meetings will be held virtually in February:

Regional Council:

Tuesday, February 8th at 10:00 a.m.
Tuesday, February 15th at 10:00 a.m. (if required)

Budget Committee:

Wednesday, February 2nd at 9:30 a.m.
Friday, February 4th at 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday, February 9th at 9:30 a.m.
Friday, February 11th at 9:30 a.m. (if required)

Wednesday, February 16th at 9:30 a.m.
Friday, February 18th at 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday, February 23rd at 9:30 a.m.
Friday, February 25th at 9:30 a.m. (if required)

North West Community Council:
Monday, February 28th at 7:00 p.m.

Meeting dates/times are subject to change, please confirm on our municipal [website](#)

NORTH WEST COMMUNITY COUNCIL UPDATES

On January 17th the North West Community Council (NWCC) considered the following:

[Case 23058: Development Agreement for vacant lot on Sackville Drive at Millwood Drive \(PID 40109308\), Middle Sackville](#)

Notice of Motion given to consider the proposed development agreement to develop two multiple

February 2022

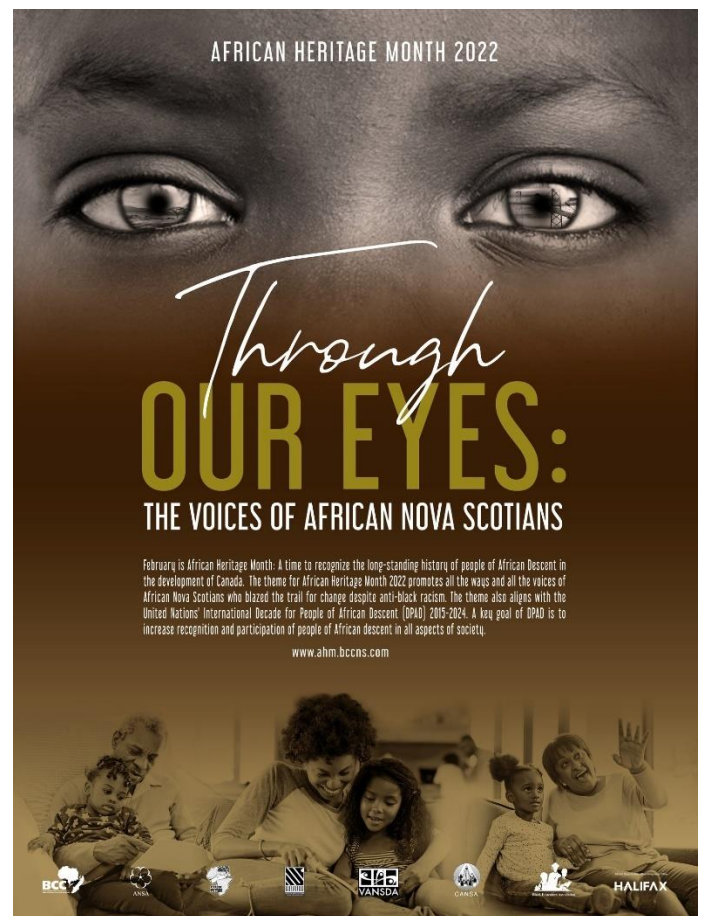
unit residential buildings on Sackville Drive, Middle Sackville and public hearing scheduled.

[Case 20110: Rezoning and Development Agreement for an Open Space Design Development along Windgate Drive, Beaver Bank](#)

Motion passed approving the proposed development agreement.

Click [here](#) to view the full agenda.

AFRICAN HERITAGE MONTH





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February is African Heritage month and this year's theme, *Through Our Eyes: The Voices of African Nova Scotians*, recognizes the long-standing history of people of African descent in the development of Canada. This theme explores and examines the effects of anti-Black racism and the voice of African Nova Scotians who blazed the trail for change.

Nova Scotia has over 50 historic African Nova Scotian communities with a long, deep, and complex history dating back over 200 years. African Heritage Month provides us with another opportunity to celebrate our culture, legacy, achievements, and contributions of our people – past and present.

DID YOU KNOW...

February 2nd is Ground Hog Day



Shubenacadie Sam (aka Samantha) will be the first ground hog in North America to predict another six

weeks of winter or an early spring! When Sam emerges from her "home" on February 2nd, if she sees her shadow, that means six more weeks of winter, if no shadow, hello early spring! The good news, either way, spring is only six weeks away!

February 15th is National Flag of Canada Day



Flag Day is to commemorate the inauguration of the flag of Canada that took place on February 15th, 1965.

2022/23 BUDGET DISCUSSIONS



Interested in how decisions are made for the municipal operating and capital budgets? Here is your opportunity to watch the process as it happens! The following dates have been set aside for virtual business unit business plan and budget presentations at Regional Council.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

You will have an opportunity to speak directly to Regional Council about budget priorities. Time will be set aside for the public to provide insight and comments at each meeting. **To be added to the speakers list for virtual meetings, pre-registration is required no later than 4:30 p.m. the business day prior to the meeting.** Registration information will be included on the [meeting agenda page](#) for each meeting. For any



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questions about registration, residents may contact the Clerk's Office at 902-490-4210 or clerks@halifax.ca.

PROCESS:

Each business unit will present their proposed business plan and budget. Agendas, including presentation times, will be available on halifax.ca. Regional Council will debate budget changes and refer them for final decision on Wednesday, March 23rd. Full approval of the budget will be on Tuesday, April 12th.

PRESENTATION SCHEDULE:

Business unit budget presentations are scheduled as follows:

Wednesday, February 2nd

- Corporate & Customer Services
- Chief Administrative Office
- Auditor General

Friday, February 4th

- Legal & Legislative Services
- Finance & Asset Management
- Human Resources & Corporate Communications
- IT

Wednesday, February 9th

- Transportation & Public Works

Contingency date: Friday, February 11th

Wednesday, February 16th

- Halifax Transit
- Parks & Recreation

Friday, February 18th

- Planning & Development

Wednesday, February 23rd

- Halifax Regional Police
- RCMP

Contingency date: Friday, February 25th

Wednesday, March 2nd

- Halifax Regional Fire & Emergency
- Halifax Public Libraries

Contingency date: Friday, March 4th

Wednesday, March 23rd

- Recommendation Report and Presentation: Budget Adjustment List (BAL) review

Contingency date: Friday, March 25th

Tuesday, April 12th

- Full review of final budget

Contingency date: Tuesday, April 26th

Meeting dates are subject to change. Updates will be communicated on halifax.ca/budget.

For more information, visit halifax.ca/budget.





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RCMP ROAD SAFETY STATISTICS FOR DECEMBER

RCMP Road Safety Stats
December Summary - District 14
Middle-Upper Sackville / Beaver Bank / Lucasville

- 372 calls for service in Dec. 2021**
Up 61% from Dec. 2020
- 4 Summary Offence Tickets (vs. 11 in Dec. 2020)**
 - 2 aggressive driving, 2 other MVA (i.e. unregistered vehicle, fail to yield, etc.)
- 146 Proactive Assignments (vs. 38 in Dec. 2020)**
- 34 Cellphone/impaired/Seatbelt/Speeding checkpoints**
- 70 Traffic Stops (vs. 26 in December 2020)**
- 2 Impaired Driving Charges (vs. 1 in Dec. 2020)**
- 1 Impaired Suspension (vs. 0 in Dec. 2020)**
- 7 Motor Vehicle Accidents (vs. 10 in Dec. 2020)**
 - Of these, none resulted in injuries

Please Drive Safely!

communities. Should suspicious or unlawful activity be observed, RCMP dispatch is contacted and details of the suspicious or unlawful activity is reported for appropriate police response.

In order to become a COP volunteer, you must;

- Be at least 19 years of age.
- Possess a valid driver’s license and maintain a good driving record
- Complete an interview.
- Pass the security screening required by the RCMP.

If Citizens on Patrol is just the opportunity you’re looking for, contact the RCMP at hdiv.volunteer@rcmp-grc.gc.ca with your name, address, phone number and nearest RCMP detachment.

CITIZENS ON PATROL SEEKS VOLUNTEERS



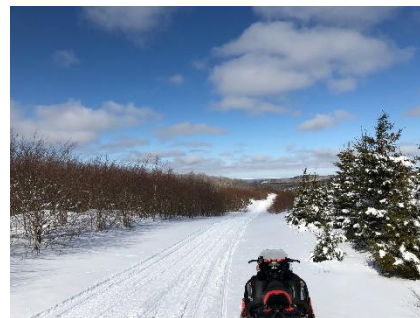
The community based crime prevention initiative, Citizens on Patrol (COP), is seeking new volunteers province-wide to help keep communities safe. The successful program

has been running for decades.

The Citizens on Patrol Program is a partnership between police and volunteers that helps ensure safe homes and safe communities. COP volunteers are trained by the RCMP and are the eyes and ears of their communities. Volunteers contribute a minimum of four volunteer hours each month. COP members make observations and take notes of areas visited throughout their

February 2022

RCMP - SNOWMOBILING SAFETY TIPS



With the winter weather upon us and the recent snowfall, snowmobile enthusiasts have begun to take to trails across

Nova Scotia to enjoy some winter fun. The Nova Scotia RCMP would like to take this opportunity to remind snowmobile enthusiasts about the importance of safety when on the trails this season.



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Here are some tips to keep in mind before you head out on the trails:

- Always check 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.
- Let someone know your plans, where you are going, the route you plan on taking and the time you expect to return.
- Always wear protective clothing, including a helmet, gloves and eye protection. Wear layers of clothing to keep warm and dry.
- When possible, avoid crossing bodies of water. If you are crossing bodies of water, never ride in single file and wear a life jacket over your outer clothing.
- 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.
- When venturing into remote areas, snowmobilers should be alert and take all precautions necessary, as help could be several hours away.

Cpl. Chris Marshall of the Nova Scotia RCMP reminds residents that every year the RCMP responds to fatal collisions involving snowmobiles on our trails, as well as complaints involving stranded snowmobilers who did not

bring enough provisions or warm clothing for their trip.

Let's all do our part to ensure a fun and safe snowmobile season for all!

HALIFAX TRANSIT SERVICE DISRUPTIONS



Both the Woodside and Alderney ferries have been reduced to 30-minute service due to resourcing challenges resulting from mounting positive COVID-19 cases amongst Halifax Transit staff, employee exposures, provincially mandated self-isolation and testing requirements. This change will remain in place until further notice.

For the most up-to-date information on [service disruptions](#) and a full list of cancellations, residents can visit halifax.ca or follow [@hfxtransit](#) and [@hfxtransitalert](#) on Twitter.

SACKVILLE SNOW DAYS

Sackville Snow Days is an annual winter celebration hosted by the Sackville Business Association that runs during the February long



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weekend. [Check out the events](#) planned for February 18th to 21st and join in the fun!



dumping and litter include: [furniture](#), [appliances](#), [used tires](#), and [general waste](#).

The municipality has a number of resources available to help residents determine what goes where through its [website](#) and the [Halifax Recycles app](#). The municipality also offers free presentations and workshops to schools, universities, businesses and community groups, and hosts a [household special waste depot](#) to accept chemical waste generated in your home.

For more information visit halifax.ca/recycle.

ILLEGAL DUMPING & ANTI-LITTER



We have launched an illegal dumping and anti-litter campaign to raise awareness of disposal options, explore social and environmental impacts

and help residents understand the consequences of illegal dumping. The campaign's call to action is: **"Be responsible for your waste"**.

The campaign, in alignment with the municipality's commitment to reduce illegal dumping and litter, encourages residents to [report illegal dumping](#). Municipal staff are enforcing enhanced measures related to illegal dumping and litter. Penalties range from \$500-\$10,000 for illegal dumping, and \$200-\$10,000 for litter violations. Common examples of illegal





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INDEPENDENT LIVING NOVA SCOTIA – WINTER PROGRAMS 2022



Independent Living Nova Scotia Winter Program Offering
We are recruiting participants for 2 pre-employment programs:


<p>Gaining Access to Meaningful Employment (GAME)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Youth with disabilities ages 18-24 ✓ Who live in the Halifax area ✓ Participants build life & employability skills as well as community connections through workshops & activities <p>2 month program starting February 2022</p> <p>To apply: https://ilns.ca/game/</p> <p>Questions? Email game@ilns.ca</p>	<p>In Motion and Momentum Plus (IM&M+)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Persons with disabilities ages 18 or older ✓ Who live in the Halifax area ✓ Participants harness their potential to create the life they want to live through workshops, experiences & opportunities that help them take charge <p>10 week program starting March 2022</p> <p>To apply: https://bit.ly/3fDrml</p> <p>Questions? Email inmotionandmomentum@ilns.ca</p>
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the location becoming a UNESCO World Heritage site. We celebrate the rich heritage of this landscape which features a traditional agricultural settlement still in use today and an iconic place of memory for the Acadian diaspora.



PROVINCIAL SNOW REMOVAL STANDARDS

When will my road get plowed?



Type of Road	Clearing Time
100-Series and trunk highways, and other high traffic roads	8 hours after snow stops
Secondary routes and other medium traffic roads	12 hours after snow stops
Local paved roads, most subdivision and residential streets	24 hours after snow stops
Gravel roads	24 hours after snow stops

SALTING¹ AND SANDING

100-Series and trunk highways, and other high traffic roads

- ♦ Salted to achieve bare pavement
- ♦ Salt applied before, during and after a storm if required


***Secondary routes and other medium traffic roads**

- ♦ Salted to achieve a bare centre line
- ♦ Salt applied at beginning of storm and after a storm if required

***Local paved roads, most subdivision and residential streets**

- ♦ Salted to achieve a bare centre line
- ♦ Salt applied only after a storm

There are more than 400 snow plows and other snow-clearing vehicles working to keep Nova Scotia's roads, highways, and bridges safe during the winter months. Crews are on the job day and night, 24/7, keeping the roads as safe and as clear as possible. Work starts before the storm and continues during and after the storm. At left is more information to help explain what you can expect this winter.



FAMILY HERITAGE DAY – FEBRUARY 21ST



Introduced in 2015, this annual holiday will honour a different person or event, chosen by Nova Scotian school children. 2022

celebrates the Landscape of Grand Pré World Heritage Site to mark the 10th anniversary of

February 2022



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SPRINGFIELD LAKE RECREATION CENTRE



Springfield Lake Recreation Association

Located at 266 Lakeview Avenue in Middle Sackville, the Springfield Lake Recreation Center is where the bulk of activity happens year-round. The indoor hall (40x80 feet) hosts events from floor hockey to weddings year-round, up to 230 people during non-COVID restrictions. Also available are kitchen facilities, a bar, washrooms, a large deck complete with tables. Upstairs is the member's lounge, which can easily be used as a boardroom complete with projection equipment and television.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Facility Bookings:

Donna MacDonald (Program Coordinator) – (902) 865-9449

Fax Number: 865-1430

E-mail: info@springfieldlakerec.com

Fieldhouse Phone: (902) 865-2866

Upper Sackville Phone: (902) 869-3840

Emergencies: (902) 456-3253

SACKVILLE HEIGHTS COMMUNITY CENTRE



Scholarship Fund 2022

The Sackville Heights Community Centre Scholarship - in the amount of \$1,000 - is open to Grade 12 students

attending Sackville High / Millwood High Schools and continuing on to their first year of post-secondary education (university or college) in 2022-2023. For more information or to apply, [click here](#).

Applications to be emailed by 11:59 p.m. on April 1, 2022 to: fm@myshcc.com.

WALLACE LUCAS COMMUNITY CENTRE



596 Lucasville Road, Lucasville
Phone: (902) 865-0944.

NS WORKS OPPORTUNITY PLACE IS EXCITED TO PRESENT
THE WALLACE LUCAS COMMUNITY CENTRE
WILL NOW BE OFFERING EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

Staff will be available to provide support with your employment and career needs

ALL SERVICES ARE FREE OF CHARGE

- One on one coaching and support
- Resume and cover letter preparation and critique
- Mock interviews
- Skills Development and support
- Career counselling and assessments
- Information on funding options, apprenticeships and provincial programs
- Employer services to facilitate their needs and connect them with job-ready qualified candidates.

OPEN EVERY FRIDAY 9AM-12PM

596 Lucasville Rd, Lucasville, NS
www.opportunityplace.ca
staff@opportunityplace.ca
902-864-7520



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BEAVER BANK KINSAC COMMUNITY CENTRE



The Beaver Bank Kinsac Community Centre office will be open, by appointment only, until further notice. To book an appointment, please call 902-865-5114. The 2022-2023 wedding season is booking quick!

*All programming offered by the BBKCC at HRCE schools will be cancelled until further notice.

HRM'S COMMUNITY GRANT PROGRAM

HRM's Community Grants 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.

Registration for the 2022 program begins in January and ends March 31st. Grants Program staff are available to assist you with general inquiries at: NonProfitGrants@halifax.ca.

THE HEAT FUND



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.

SACKVILLE AREA WARMING CENTRE (SAWC)

Located at 10 Beaver Bank Road, the Sackville Area Warming Centre (SAWC) is a grassroots program which offers a safe, warm space for friends and neighbours to drop-in during winter

Beaver Bank Kinsac Community Centre
1585 Beaver Bank Road



PRESCHOOLER PLAY!

Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays!

8:30-11:30am

Feb 28 - May 27
Ages 3-4 (participants must be potty trained)

\$37.50 per week!
Help your little one grow their social and play skills!

For more information or to register call: 902-865-5114 or email bbkcc@eastlink.ca
please note: there is no preschooler play on March break, holidays, or anytime schools are closed.





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evenings. Currently seeking volunteers, contact the SAWC at sawcconnect@gmail.com.



RCMP REMIND RESIDENTS OF INTERSECTION SAFETY

Nova Scotia RCMP is reminding drivers and pedestrians about intersection-safety this winter. Winter weather can seriously impact road conditions which can make it challenging to stop quickly.

It's important to stay focused and alert when approaching an intersection so that you can see what is around you and prevent a collision. Being aware of your surroundings, changing lights and road conditions, can help keep you and others safe. Here are some tips to keep in mind:

Drivers

- Drivers should take extra care to scan for pedestrians when it's dark as it can be difficult to see;
- Window tint to the left and right of the driver is illegal as it reduces a driver's

ability to see pedestrians at intersections and cross walks;

- Always drive to the road conditions. Leave lots of space between you and the car in front of you;
- Ensure that your vehicle is free of any obstructions, for example snow and ice;
- Make a full stop at red lights and stop signs, even when turning right, and yield to oncoming traffic when turning left;
- Use your signal when making turns. Ensure it is safe to turn left before doing so;
- Drivers must yield to pedestrians at intersections, **even when there is no marked crosswalk**;
- When pedestrians are crossing, wait until they are safely across before proceeding ahead;
- Drive defensively. Even if you have the right of way, be aware of your surroundings when proceeding through an intersection.

Pedestrians

- Pedestrians and motorists should make eye contact before pedestrians cross in front of vehicles;
- Check traffic before crossing and only proceed when it is safe to do so;
- Always use crosswalks and pedestrian-activated signals when they are available;
- Wear reflective or brightly-coloured clothing if you're walking at night to be more visible;



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- Don't be a distracted pedestrian. Remove headphones; put away cell phones, or other electronic devices when crossing the street.

“Drivers and pedestrians have a shared responsibility at intersections and cross walks for safety, if everyone pays attention, we can reduce serious injury or fatal collisions.” says Sgt. Mike Carter, Unit Commander, RCMP Southwest Traffic Services.

Nova Scotia RCMP would also like to remind motorists to **buckle up**, it could save your life. Did you know that not wearing a seatbelt is one of the four causal factors of serious and fatal motor vehicle collisions in Nova Scotia?

ICE SAFETY



Each year the municipality [provides weekly reports on ice thickness testing](#) undertaken on more than 70 lakes throughout the region. This testing will resume when conditions allow.

Residents are asked to take safety precautions for themselves and their families by avoiding any recreation activities on frozen lakes and

ponds, including walking, ice fishing, snowmobiling, and skating until ice thickness testing resumes.

The [Canadian Red Cross](#) recommends that ice be at least 15 centimeters thick for individual skating, and at least 20 centimeters thick for group skating.

Extreme caution is advised in areas where streams flow into and out of lakes. It is also important to note that ice conditions may vary over the entire surface of lakes and are subject to change with weather conditions.

PROPERTY TAX REBATE FOR SENIORS

The province of Nova Scotia's [Property Tax Rebate for Seniors](#) helps low-income seniors with the cost of municipal residential property taxes. Rebates are 50% of what you paid on last year's property taxes, up to a maximum of \$800.

To qualify for the rebate, you need to meet all of the following criteria:

- your municipal residential property taxes are paid in full
- you lived at the property as your primary residence
- you receive or are eligible to receive the [Guaranteed Income Supplement](#) (GIS) or the [Allowance](#) from Service Canada



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If you are not already receiving the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) or the Allowance, you can check with [Service Canada](https://www.servicecanada.gc.ca) to see if you are eligible.

Applications for the rebate program are accepted from July 1st, 2022 to December 31st, 2022.

Phone: 902-576-3411

brianwongmla@gmail.com

- **MLA Ben Jessome**

Hammonds Plains – Lucasville

Unit 3, 2120 Hammonds Plains Road,
Hammonds Plains, NS B4B 1P3

Phone: 902-404-9900

Fax: 902-404-8415

jessomeben@gmail.com

PROVINCIAL & FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVES



Provincial Representatives in District 14:

- **MLA Brad Johns**
Sackville – Uniacke
Unit 103, 1710 Sackville Drive
Middle Sackville, NS B4E 3A9
Phone: 902-865-6467
mlabradjohns@gmail.com
- **MLA Steve Craig**
Sackville – Cobequid
Unit 104, 445 Sackville Drive
Lower Sackville, NS B4C 2S1
Phone: 902-864-6271
Fax: 902-864-0483
Steve.Craig@novascotia.ca
- **MLA Brian Wong**
Waverley – Fall River – Beaver Bank
Suite 101, 1265 Fall River Road
Fall River, NS B2T 1E6



Federal Representatives in District 14:

- **MP Darrell Samson**
Sackville – Preston - Chezzetcook
2900 Highway 2, Suite 2nd Floor
Fall River, NS B2T 1W4
Telephone: 902-861-2311
Fax: 902-861-4620
- **MP Lena Metlege Diab**
Halifax West
Suite 222, 1496 Bedford Highway
Bedford, NS B4A 1E5
Telephone: 902-426-2217
Fax: 902-426-8339



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B3J 3A5 halifax.ca 311

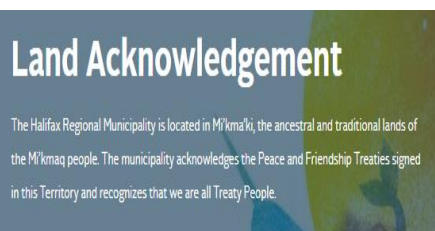
HALIFAX

I currently serve on the following Boards and Committees along with Halifax Regional Council and the North West Community Council:

- Appeals Standing Committee
- Board of Police Commissioners
- Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee
- Executive Standing Committee
- Special Events Advisory Committee
- Women’s Advisory Committee

HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY’S LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Halifax is committed to strengthening its



relationship with Indigenous communities and honouring the significant contributions of

Indigenous peoples. Another way the municipality has demonstrated this is by formalizing the official Land Acknowledgement:

“The Halifax Regional Municipality is located in February 2022

“Mi’kma’ki, the ancestral and traditional lands of the Mi’kmaq people. The municipality acknowledges the Peace and Friendship Treaties signed in this Territory and recognizes that we are all Treaty People.”

A land acknowledgment is an important statement that acknowledges we understand the long-standing history that has brought us to reside on this land and that we seek to understand our place with that history. In Nova Scotia, we are all Treaty People; with that comes roles and responsibilities.



Wheaton Terriers enjoying the wonders of winter.

