



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

## DEAR RESIDENTS,

Happy February District 4!

Even though the ground hog has indicated there will be 6 more weeks of winter, I hope all is well as we look forward to both the warmer weather and hopefully getting back to a more 'normal' this spring!

There are a couple of important events this month I would like to highlight. The first is that February is African Heritage Month. Check out the resources provided by The Black Cultural Center to explore the history of African Nova Scotians on their [website](#).

The second important event is an ongoing event throughout February and March – our 2022/23 budget deliberations. Public participation is encouraged at the beginning of each budget committee meeting. You can find the meeting dates and business unit presentation list on page 5 of this newsletter.

To register, please contact the Clerk's Office by 4:30pm the business day before the meeting via phone 902.490.4210 or e-mail at [clerks@halifax.ca](mailto:clerks@halifax.ca).

Thanks so much and as always, kindly reach out with any municipal questions or concerns anytime!

Sincerely,



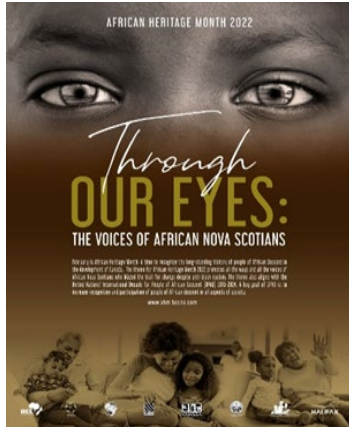


# COUNCILLOR TRISH PURDY

COLE HARBOUR - WESTPHAL - LAKE LOON - CHERRY BROOK

## BLACK HISTORY & AFRICAN HERITAGE MONTH

I invite you to recognize Canada's Black History Month and Nova Scotia's African Heritage Month with me throughout February.



As we commemorate this important month, please take time to celebrate and learn more about the rich culture, achievements and contributions of African Nova Scotians and communities of African descent in our region and across the nation.

This year's African Heritage Month 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.

The municipality is holding a variety of events to celebrate the legacy, achievements, and contributions of people of African descent as part of our collective Nova Scotia heritage.

For more information, visit the municipality's African Heritage Month [website](#).

Explore the Halifax Public Libraries African Heritage Month [virtual portal](#), featuring programs that celebrate the African Nova Scotian community.

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## OVERNIGHT WINTER PARKING BAN NEW ZONES

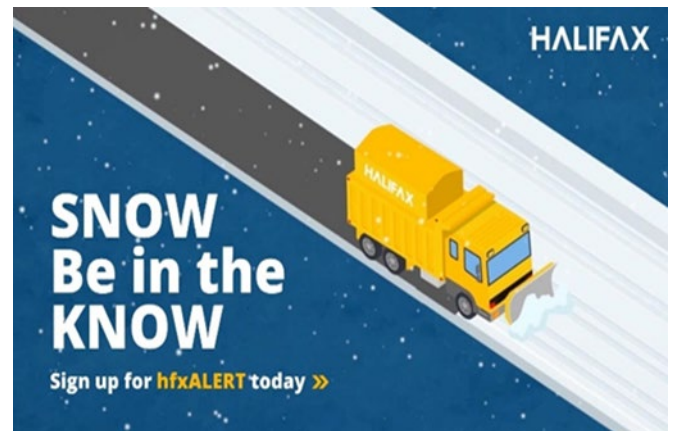
The municipal overnight winter parking ban is in effect annually from December 15 to March 31. The ban is enforced from 1 a.m. to 6 a.m. during declared weather events and snow removal operations only, including this weekend.

Stay up to date on the winter parking ban by signing up for [hfxALERT](#) - hfxALERT will send municipal winter parking ban notices along with urgent and non-urgent notifications from Halifax Regional Police, Halifax Fire & Emergency's Emergency Management Division.

NEW: Halifax recently introduced two zones for the overnight winter parking ban:  
Zone 1 - Central  
Zone 2 - Non-Central. Find out what zone you're in using this [interactive map](#).

For more information about the winter parking ban, and when/how it applies please visit [halifax.ca/snow](#) or call 311.

Note: Even if isolating due to COVID-19, residents are responsible to make arrangements to move their vehicle off municipal streets in advance of the storm.





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### SQUARE ROOTS: FEBRUARY DATES



Square Roots is a community interest company (not-for-profit) that aims to reduce food waste and food access challenges. They offer fresh local produce that may get rejected by grocery stores for not being “pretty” enough. The dates for bundle pick up in February and March are the 5<sup>th</sup> and the 19<sup>th</sup>. Click [here](#) to sign up and find more information regarding pick-up options.

Feel free to share this information with folks who may want to participate in the program.



Preparing produce bundles for Square Roots!

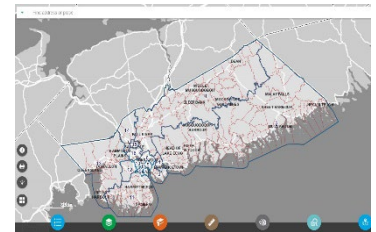
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### EXPLORE HRM

Explore your municipality from the comfort of your own home.

ExploreHRM is a [user-friendly interactive map](#) of the Halifax Regional Municipality. Find addresses, streets, bus stops, property information and much more.

It’s an all-in-one tool to help people explore a variety information about Halifax Regional Municipality. This interactive web-map has been developed using Esri’s ArcGIS Online platform and is powered by Halifax’s Open Data. Check it out [here](#).



You can also access other municipal maps, including printable versions, [here](#).

### NOVA SCOTIA HERITAGE DAY

Nova Scotia Heritage Day is on February 21, 2022. The 2022 Nova Scotia Heritage Day Honouree is “The Landscape of Grand Pré World Heritage Site.”

As we enjoy this holiday in Nova Scotia, please take time to reflect on the [historical significance](#) of Grand-Pré.





## **FIREWORKS: PLEASE CONSIDER THEIR IMPACT ON YOUR NEIGHBOURS**

As beautiful as they are, fireworks have an impact on our neighbors and their pets, the environment, and wildlife.

### **-Mental Health-**

Noise from fireworks can have a long-lasting negative impact on people who suffer from mental health disorders, such as but not limited to:

- Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)
- Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)
- Misophonia (when people experience strong discomfort, annoyance or disgust when they hear particular triggers)

### **-Wildlife-**

The shock of fireworks can cause wildlife to flee, ending up in unexpected areas or roadways, flying into buildings and other obstacles and even abandoning nests, leaving young vulnerable to predators.

### **-Pets-**

Fireworks can be beautiful to us but are *terrifying* to them! Many animals have sensitive hearing and associate loud noises with danger. Whenever possible, please notify your neighbours when you plan to use consumer fireworks.

Keep pets inside and comforted. If outside, have your pets securely on lead/leash. When scared, pets are known to run off and get lost in the night if not secured.

### **-Environment-**

Fireworks cause an abundance of litter that can scatter for kilometers, polluting neighborhoods, waterways and green spaces.

### **-Safe use of Fireworks-**

If you must use fireworks, you must abide by burning and noise by-laws, which means fireworks may only be used during certain days and times. Fireworks are only permitted on New Year's Eve, Canada Day, Natal Day, and on recognized religious holidays.

Consumer fireworks do not require a permit on your own property.

### **-Questions & Concerns-**

For general, non-urgent questions or concerns regarding the use of fireworks in our municipality, please contact **311**. If you witness illegal fireworks use, **please call 911**.

Please consider how the fun of fireworks may be a traumatic experience for others.

Learn more about the hazards and the safe use of fireworks in HRM on our [website](#).





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### 2022-23 MUNICIPAL BUDGET PROCESS

Each of the municipality's business units will present their proposed business plan and budget. Then, Regional Council will debate budget changes and refer them for final decision on Wednesday, March 23. Full approval of the budget will be on Tuesday, April 12. Below is the schedule for February. Dates are subject to change; the most up to date info and more background on the budget process can be found [here](#).

#### Wednesday, February 2:

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

#### Friday, February 4:

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

#### Wednesday, February 9:

- Transportation & Public Works

#### Wednesday, February 16:

- Halifax Transit
- Parks & Recreation

#### Friday, February 18:

- Planning & Development

#### Wednesday, February 23:

- Halifax Regional Police
- RCMP

You can speak directly to me as your Councillor about budget priorities. During each meeting, time will be set aside for the public to provide insight and comments.

To be added to the speakers list for virtual meetings, pre-registration is 4:30 p.m. the business day before the meeting. Registration information will be included on the [meeting agenda](#) page for each meeting.

### UPCOMING REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETINGS



There are two Regional Council meetings scheduled for February:

- Tuesday, February 8 (10am)
- Tuesday, February 15 (10am, if required)

Visit our [website](#) to see a full list of upcoming meetings including Standing Committees and Community Councils.

Due to the ongoing pandemic, all meetings are virtual again, and I encourage you to view online if you are interested. Agendas and links to watch virtual meetings are provided on the webpage I referenced above – I hope you can join us, virtually!



### MODULAR HOUSING UPDATES

[Municipal updates](#) are issued on a weekly basis to keep us all informed about the status of the emergency accommodations that the municipality is helping to provide for unhoused individuals. There will be two modular housing unit sites: Church Street (downtown Dartmouth) and Cogswell Street (Centennial Pool parking lot in Halifax).

Exact timing for occupancy at both the emergency accommodations sites is dependent upon the Province of Nova Scotia, which is responsible for determining placement of individuals and providing wrap-around services onsite through a service provider.

**At the Dartmouth modular site**, occupancy was approved for the four modular bedroom units (total capacity 24 persons) on January 13; the provincial service provider (Out of the Cold) facilitated placement of individuals on January 16. Most individuals who have been accommodated at the Gray Arena have moved to the Dartmouth modular site. Alternate accommodations have been provided by the province to those individuals at the arena who did not relocate to the modular units.

With the Dartmouth site now occupied, the design and construction team has shifted focus to completing the **Halifax modular unit site**. Nine units will be installed on a portion of the Centennial Pool parking lot accessed from Cogswell Street. This site will be able to accommodate 38 individuals. It is anticipated the civil site work for the modular units will begin the week of February 7.

### Crisis Accommodations Funding

- The municipality has provided some of the crisis accommodation funding approved by Regional Council to a coalition of 11 community service providers for hotel stays to support those experiencing homelessness. In conjunction with service providers, the municipality is also directly covering the cost of hotels rooms for some individuals. Between September and the first week of January, 109 people accessed hotel rooms via this funding, for a total of 2,496 nights.

During cold weather events, the municipality has been continuing to support Nova Scotia's Department of Community Service to address homelessness by providing access to municipal facilities as emergency shelters such as the George Dixon Centre in Halifax. There are also community-run warming centres located at St. Matthew's Church (Barrington Street) and the Sackville Area Warming Centre (located at Gateway Community Church).

The Province announced it will be working with HRM and the Government of Canada to create 65 additional supportive housing options. The former Travelodge hotel in Dartmouth is being converted to supportive housing units for people who are chronically unhoused. This is in addition to both modular housing sites that the municipality has already funded (Dartmouth and Halifax). More information can be found [here](#).

*If you see an individual in need of shelter during extreme weather and they have requested help, please **call 311 or 211** to connect them with service providers and ensure help is on the way. But if their life is in danger, please **call 911**.*



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### 2022-23 COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM

Halifax Regional Municipality’s Community Grants Program is now accepting applications for the 2022-2023 program. The deadline for applying is March 31, 2022.

Application forms and program guidebooks will be available on our [website](#) as well as from:

- [HRM Customer Service Centres](#)
- Contacting [311](#)
- Or by e-mail - [Nonprofitgrants@halifax.ca](mailto:Nonprofitgrants@halifax.ca)

For further information, please call 902.490.7310.

The Program provides annual cash grants to registered non-profit organizations and charities located throughout the Halifax region. There are two types of grants: a project grant of up to \$5,000 and a capital grant of up to \$25,000. The grants can aid specific types of projects in numerous categories, from Arts and Crafts, Diversity and Inclusion, Recreation and more.

### COVID-19 SUPPORTS

Individuals, families and businesses continue to experience many challenges relating to COVID-19. Help is available for many types of situations, and ranges from financial to social support:

- Provincial COVID-19 financial help and social supports are available [here](#).
- Federal COVID-19 financial help and social supports [here](#).

For municipal updates relating to COVID-19, visit our [website](#).

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### SKATING ON OUR FROZEN LAKES & PONDS

HRM Parks staff have now started ice testing on various lakes across the municipality. Most of the lakes are now ice covered, however some lakes have not formed ice to the recommended thickness of 15 cm required for safe use. 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.

Parks staff will continue to monitor, test and update the ice thickness table as conditions permit. Be sure to check the updates for your local lake [here](#) before heading out.

*Please note that only measurements over 15cm will be posted, and not all of the lakes have been tested.*

**RCMP Road Safety Stats**  
December Summary - District 4  
Cole Harbour / Westphal / Lake Loon / Cherry Brook

- 805 calls for service in Dec. 2021  
Up 25.39% from Dec. 2020
- 55 Summary Offence Tickets (vs. 33 in Dec. 2020)
  - 27 aggressive driving, 8 cellphone, 16 other MVA (i.e. unregistered vehicle, no insurance, etc.), 4 speeding
- 347 Proactive Assignments (vs. 46 in Dec. 2020)
- 48 Cellphone/Impaired/Seatbelt/Speeding checkpoints
- 164 Traffic Stops (vs. 245 in Dec 2020)  
1 Impaired Driving Charge (vs. 6 in Dec. 2020)  
1 Impaired Suspension (vs. 4 in Dec. 2020)
- 14 Motor Vehicle Accidents (vs. 16 in Dec. 2020)
  - Of these, none resulted in injuries

**Please Drive Safely!**

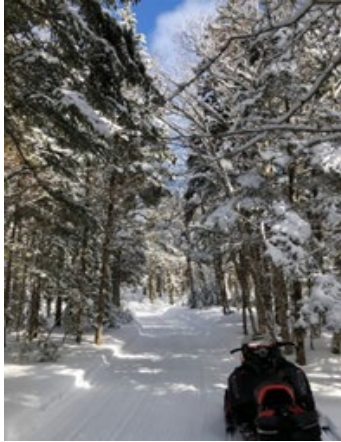


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### RCMP TALK SNOW MOBILE SAFETY

The Nova Scotia RCMP would like to remind snowmobile enthusiasts about the importance of safety when on the trails this season.



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

- Always check the 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.

### CITIZENS ON PATROL

The RCMP has shared that its community-based crime prevention initiative, Citizens on Patrol, is seeking new volunteers province-wide to help keep communities safe. This successful program has been running for decades.



The Citizens on Patrol Program is a partnership between police and volunteers that helps ensure the safety of homes and 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 communities and 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](mailto:hdiv.volunteer@rcmp-grc.gc.ca) with your name, address, phone number and nearest detachment. We'll provide you with more info.





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### PARKS & REC FEE CHANGES COMING

On April 1, 2022 the Parks and Recreation Fee structure will be changing. These changes will affect all recreation services, programs, rentals, drop ins, voucher, and memberships fees.

This does not mean prices are going up across the board; as a result of the fee structure changes that was approved by regional council, some fees are increasing in cost while others are staying the same or decreasing. Please see the full list of fee structure changes here.

The updated fee structure will reflect the actual cost of providing recreation services to residents.

Learn more, and explore a list of FAQs on our [website](#).



February 2022

### 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 scheduled for February 3<sup>rd</sup> has been cancelled due to a light agenda. The next meeting of Community Council will take place on March 3<sup>rd</sup>. 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](#).