

DEPUTY MAYOR PAM LOVELACE DISTRICT 13 NEWSLETTER

Hammonds Plains - St. Margarets



HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

SPRING 2022

FRANCOPHONIE MONTH / MOIS DE LA FRANCOPHONIE



Célébrez le Mois de la Francophonie avec moi en mars ! Que serait le Canada - ou même la Nouvelle-Écosse - sans notre culture francophone ? Ce serait un Canada bien différent, sans la culture et la diversité riches et célébrées que la langue française et les francophones apportent à notre identité nationale. Le bilinguisme et le fait de parler français sont également des éléments fondamentaux de nos valeurs canadiennes. L'histoire acadienne de la Nouvelle-Écosse est très complexe. Malgré de grandes difficultés au fil des ans, y compris la déportation tragique dans les années 1700, les Acadiens sont revenus et ont établi des communautés solides avec une culture très vivante qui continue de faire partie intégrante de la diversité de la Nouvelle-Écosse aujourd'hui.

DISTRICT PRIORITIES

Please visit halifax.ca/district13 and click on District Updates to see the list of priorities I have initiated for Hammonds Plains-St. Margarets.



CONTACT ME

Email: Pam.Lovelace@halifax.ca

Phone: 902.225.4624

Fax: 902.490.4122

Mailing address: PO Box 1749
Halifax, NS B3J 3A5

CONTACT MY OFFICE

Quentin Hill, Constituency Coordinator

Email: Quentin.Hill@halifax.ca

Phone: 902.490.1463

CONNECT ON SOCIAL MEDIA

I invite you to connect with me on Facebook -

@[PamelaLovelaceHRM](#) and on Twitter and Instagram -
@[HRMLovelace](#)

E-NEWSLETTER

In addition to this print newsletter, I also provide a frequent e-newsletter. Subscribe by visiting halifax.ca/district13 and click on "Communications."

311 - MUNICIPAL CONTACT CENTRE

Call 311 or visit halifax.ca/311 to report a municipal issue. Hours are: Mon - Fri 8 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Sat - Sun 9 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

OTHER USEFUL CONTACTS

Police/Fire Emergency: 911

Police (non-emergency): 902.490.5020

Fire (non-emergency): 902.490.5530

Halifax Water Emergency: 902.420.9287

Councillors' Support Office: 902.490.4050

NS Public Works: 844.696.7737

HALIFAX



DISTRICT 13 NEWSLETTER SPRING 2022

HOW ARE PROPERTY TAXES CALCULATED?

Property taxes take into account a) the assessed value of your property, and b) the tax rate which is applied to the assessed value. Property assessments are determined by Property Valuation Services Corporation (PVSC), an independent, not-for-profit organization responsible for assessing all property in Nova Scotia as mandated under the *Nova Scotia Assessment Act*.

For homeowners, your Property Assessment Notice is mailed in January and shows your property's assessed value, capped assessment (if eligible), and your taxable assessed value (used to calculate your property taxes). For more information on how your property is assessed please contact PVSC.

Tax rates are determined by Regional Council, based on decisions made through the budget process, and consider increases in assessments and other sources of revenue. The rate is determined by dividing the total money required by HRM to deliver business plans by the total taxable assessment.

There is a general rate for urban, suburban, and rural areas, as well as other area rates. When considering a "rate increase" of 4.6%, that refers to the increase a property owner would be expected to pay over what they paid last year (i.e., if you paid \$1,000 last year, a 4.6% increase would mean you pay \$1,046).

More information about tax rates is available at www.halifax.ca.

OTTER LAKE FACILITY UPDATE

The Otter Lake Waste Processing & Disposal Facility (Otter Lake) was commissioned in 1999 and currently includes a Front-End Processor (FEP) and Waste Stabilization Facility (WSF). It is the only waste facility in North America to install and operate these processes.

The FEP uses manual labour; workers open and search through garbage bags that may contain unsafe materials (i.e., human and animal feces, needles, etc.). FEP employees sort through garbage bags to find unacceptable waste, such as flyers used in cat litter boxes, the bottom of bird cages, or for training puppies. These soiled paper products cannot be recycled, therefore, they enter Otter Lake.

Despite the growth of our municipality, we continue to reduce the amount of waste entering Otter Lake thanks to HRM's first-rate solid waste policies, which include recycling, composting, clear garbage bags, and education.

The FEP/WSF Closure Review report concludes that there does not appear to be any significant benefit to the continued operations of the FEP/WSF or any increased risk to public health and the environment if the FEP/WSF operations are terminated. On January 24, 2022, the public consultation report was submitted to Nova Scotia Environment and Climate Change (NSECC) as part of the application requirement. The report is available at halifax.ca/otterlake. NSECC will advise on the application status later this year.

ONLINE ARENA RENTAL BOOKINGS

Halifax Regional Municipality has launched new online rental booking services at select municipal arenas. This new service will provide accessibility and flexibility for facility bookings, including offering residents the opportunity to secure last-minute available rental hours at participating arenas in the municipality. Last-minute rental space will be offered after allocations for all seasonal contracts have been filled.

Participating arenas include the Sackville Sports Stadium, LeBrun Arena, St. Margaret's Centre, Zatzman Sportsplex, RBC Centre and HRM 4-Pad. Last minute rentals will be available for other indoor and outdoor facilities by this summer, including gymnasiums, all-weather fields, sport courts, ball diamonds and sports fields. For more information visit halifax.ca/lastminute.

PARKS & RECREATION FEES

On April 1st, 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 approved by Regional Council, some fees are increasing in cost while others are staying the same or decreasing.

The updated fee structure will reflect the actual cost of providing recreation services to residents. Learn more, and view the list of fee changes at halifax.ca/parks-rec-fee-changes.



DISTRICT 13 NEWSLETTER SPRING 2022

POTHoles – REPORTING & REPAIRING

This is a challenging year for potholes due to the freeze and thaw cycle we've been experiencing. I get many questions and concerns from residents as we move from winter into spring, as new potholes appear, and existing ones may get bigger. For municipal roads, please call 311 or email contactus@311.halifax.ca or visit halifax.ca/potholes.

The province is responsible to repair 100-series highways and provincial roads. Please contact NS Public Works for provincial road and bridge repairs: dpw-occ@novascotia.ca or call 1-844-696-7737.

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

For general, non-urgent questions or concerns regarding the use of fireworks in our municipality, please contact HRM at 311 or contactus@311.halifax.ca. If you witness illegal fireworks use, please call 911.

ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION EDUCATION AND PROMOTION GRANTS

Active Transportation (AT) Education and Promotion Grants support community organizations that propose projects to address, or partially address, HRM's objectives to increase the number of people walking and bicycling, and improve the safety of people using these modes. Projects may include safety and skills training programs, AT education and engagement, AT related events, or more. Deadline for applications is April 11th, 2022. Learn more and apply by visiting halifax.ca and search *Active Transportation Grants* in the search bar.

RURAL ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM IN DEVELOPMENT

The municipality will create a Rural AT Program that focuses on rural community centre sidewalks and incorporates a prioritization framework, funding strategy, ten year target and operational and maintenance approach. This Program will build on the existing rural active transportation network, consisting of a network of

multi-use pathways built and maintained by community associations. It will provide a more consistent approach in maintaining walking and bicycling infrastructure in rural parts of the municipality. Following the Program's development, necessary amendments will be made to the Active Transportation Priorities Plan.

HOMELESSNESS

HRM continues to support the province in addressing homelessness by providing access to municipal facilities as emergency shelters. For more details visit halifax.ca/addressinghomelessness

HALIFACT UPDATE – ACTING ON CLIMATE TOGETHER

HalifACT is more than a plan - it's a commitment to reducing emissions, switching to clean and reliable energy sources and demonstrating local government leadership. This transformational plan aligns the municipality's efforts to support an equitable shift to a net-zero economy by 2050. HalifACT is one of the most ambitious climate action movements in Canada.

While implementing HalifACT will require significant financial contribution from all levels of government, investing today will save money, prevent loss, prepare communities, and improve wellbeing. \$1 spent in preparation saves \$6 in future impact costs according to a 2020 report by Federation of Canadian Municipalities.

The municipality is already seeing early signs of these savings. Since 2018, as part of a three year partnership with Efficiency NS, the municipality has implemented approximately 200 energy efficiency projects, saving over \$2 million annually and reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 15%.

Currently, there is a proposed 3% Climate Tax being debated at Council to fund climate mitigation and adaption initiatives. I look forward to discussing this option further with my colleagues as municipal budget deliberations continue.

Acting now will save money, prevent loss, prepare communities, and improve wellbeing. Learn more about HalifACT, its aims, and the role of both the municipality and residents in achieving its targets at halifax.ca



DISTRICT 13 NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2022

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 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.

2022 WORLD SAILING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Get excited - the world's best sailors are coming to Nova Scotia to compete in the World Championships on the waters of our beautiful St. Margarets Bay. The event will take place from August 31st - September 5th, 2022, featuring three Olympic classes: the 49er, 49erFX and Nacra 17. Organizers are busy preparing for this world-class event that is taking place in Canada for the first time ever. You can learn more and connect with the organizers using the contact details below.



49er • 49erFX • Nacra 17
2022 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS
NOVA SCOTIA, CANADA

August 31 – September 5, 2022

ANGELA CHISHOLM

GENERAL MANAGER

902.225.8295
ANGELA@SAILTHEBAY2022.CA
49er.org nacra17.org

HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY'S VOLUNTEER AWARDS

I would like to recognize the wonderful community volunteers who were selected to receive a Volunteer Award in the past year. Congratulations and thank you, District 13 Volunteer Award winners, **Beverly Carlsen** and **Chris Pelham**.



Mayor Mike Savage and I presented Chris Pelham with his award in December. Chris has guided BayRides and the Community Enterprise Centre through their critical early development years.



While Beverly Carlsen (pictured next to me) was not able to make it to the Volunteer Awards event, I held a small event for her at the St. Margarets Bay Community Enterprise Centre. Beverly's service and dedication to the community has truly helped it grow and prosper.



Please recycle.

Delivery Note:

Due to the delivery routes followed by Canada Post, it is possible that some of these newsletters may appear in other Districts. If you receive it in error, I apologize for any confusion and hope you find its content useful.