



COUNCILLOR BECKY KENT
DISTRICT 3 ONLINE NEWS
DARTMOUTH SOUTH - EASTERN PASSAGE

MESSAGE FROM BECKY

Hello District 3 Residents,

Spring has sprung and summer is well on its way. I hope you are all having a great month of June and for those of us who have graduations in our plans, I wish all your grads a huge congratulations and best wishes for their future.

I am pleased to share a photo of one of my sons, Tyler, who recently graduated from Dalhousie with a Masters of Physiotherapy. Yes, this is a “proud Momma moment”. Well done to the families and supporters of all our students and graduates as well. It takes a village to raise our children and education is an area where it is often most vital.

So much is happening in HRM and as restrictions have changed, the number of in-person events have increased. Some of the more recent activities I have been part of include: HRM Citizenship Awards, HRM Volunteer Awards, Senior’s Teas, Bryony House brunch, and Halifax Water Board tour just to name a few.

I look forward to many, many more and I hope to see you at one of them. I had hoped to organize Town Halls for this spring, but the scheduling is not going to work out, so I am looking to the fall. Stay tuned for more details.

Stay safe and be well.

Warmly,

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.





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MUSIC 4 MENTAL HEALTH



Music 4 Mental Health is a free 12-hour music marathon fundraiser in support of mental health programs in our community. Local musicians and bands will showcase their incredible talents, all in support of this important cause. There will be table-top displays onsite, featuring mental health supports and initiatives, and more. There will also be stories shared by residents, along with featured guest speakers.

The event will take place on June 4th from 12:00 p.m.-12:00 a.m. at The Buffalo Club, 625 Cow Bay Road. For more information, click [here](#).



My son, Tyler who recently graduated with a Masters of Physiotherapy

2022 PROPOSED TRAFFIC CALMING INSTALLATION FOR DISTRICT 3

Street Name	Limit From	Limit To	Comments
Irving Street	Pleasant St	Grant St	
Osborne Avenue	Pleasant St	End	School Zone Only
Bellbrook Cres	Portland Hills Dr	Portland Hills Dr	
Eisener Blvd	Woodlawn Public Library	Russell Lake Dr	
Portland Hills Dr	Portland Estates Blvd West	Portland St	



2022 District 3 Volunteer Award Recipient Anthony Brown



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PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT: SHEARWATER WOODSIDE ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION

HRM is exploring options to build a three-kilometre walking and bicycling path that connects the Dartmouth Harbourfront Trail and the Shearwater Flyer Trail as well as improving other area connections. The purpose of these sessions is to share information on several concepts and hear what people think. The dates for public engagement are as follows:

Thursday, June 16th 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.
North Woodside Community Centre

Monday, June 20th 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.
South Woodside Community Centre

An opportunity to share your feedback online will also be made available in the coming weeks. Stay tuned for more details.



2022 District 3 Volunteer Award Recipient
Shyla Gupta



2022 District 3 Citizenship Award Recipient
John Cluett, Ellenvale Junior High School





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RECTANGULAR RAPID FLASHING BEACONS (RRFB)

RRFBs are pedestrian activated crosswalk treatment systems which consist of two rapidly and alternately flashing rectangular amber beacons mounted above the side mounted pedestrian crossing signs. RRFBs can enhance safety at unsignalized intersections and mid-block pedestrian crossings by increasing driver awareness of potential pedestrian conflicts and by improving driver yielding behavior.



The 2022/2023 budget includes installation of 20 RRFB at existing marked crosswalks. I am pleased to share that 3 crosswalks in District 3 will be receiving RRFBs:

1. Cow Bay Rd at Keyport Ave (upgrade to existing crosswalk)
2. Caldwell Rd at Thorncrest Ave (upgrade to existing crosswalk)
3. 1493 Main Rd (upgrade to existing crosswalk)

SILVER SANDS BEACH UPDATE

HRM Legal has put forward an injunction order to have the court reopen the Legal Easement to gain access to the beach. The hearing took place on May 10th. We hope the judge will come back soon with a decision. Stay tuned.

HRP CADET RECRUITMENT

Halifax Regional Police is currently accepting applications for its 2023 cadet class until June 19th. In an effort to continually become more diverse, HRP is seeking applicants who are community-minded, service-oriented and reflective of our communities to consider a career in policing. The next class is an important part of preparing for ongoing attrition and developing capacity as the service evolves. HRP's training facility is recognized by the Nova Scotia Government, and eligible candidates can apply for financial assistance.

To learn more, visit our [website](#).

For information sessions and for the latest updates on social media at, follow: @JoinHRP on Twitter and Instagram

2023 HRP CADET CLASS
Join Our Team!

HALIFAX REGIONAL POLICE
HALIFAX

CONSIDER A CAREER IN POLICING
hrprecruiting@halifax.ca
halifax.ca/HRP-Cadet-Recruit

@JoinHRP



TRAFFIC CALMING: PORTLAND ESTATES BLVD & EISENER BLVD

Many folks have reached out to me about Eisener Blvd and offered both positive and negative comments. I really appreciate your input and I am sharing this all with staff.

To be clear, there is NO specific public engagement required on the need for traffic calming measures. When requests come into traffic analysts for review, if they meet the policy criteria (Eisener and Portland Hills were ranked high) the Traffic Authority has the legal right to take action to address concerns. Councillors have no authority on this. Our role is to communicate with community and ensure that all concerns raised are shared with staff for consideration. Because traffic engineering is so specific and related to safety, it is based on best practices, policy and criteria standardized across Canada, as opposed to political decision making.

Eisener Blvd is ranked very high on the traffic calming review, based on data, and has qualified for measures to be installed. Due to the volume of concerns raised in this area, the traffic staff made the decision to proceed with temporary measures to see how they are working, which was approved by Council in 2019, 2021 and more recently in 2022.

Occasionally, temporary traffic calming measures are identified as a near-term need when Capital Works Projects (i.e., paving) are planned for the near term (2-4 years). In these cases, temporary measures may be installed to 'get ahead of the pavers', with the intent to test

the effectiveness of the measures prior to installing permanent features. Tactical measures are typically used for horizontal deflections, such as bump-outs or corridor narrowing. Temporary (or rubber) speed humps and speed tables are not currently used under this program as they can be easily lifted and damaged by snowplows. This street and this area are scheduled to have a capital paving project in the near future, which will include a permanent placement of curb, sidewalk and bike lane. The current measures are temporary in design until the major project can happen later.

The Eisener Blvd area has many safety challenges including vehicle speeds, lack of safe pedestrian crossings, lack of sidewalk on the west side of Eisener from Portland Hills to the residential streets and the Portland Lakes trail system, and incomplete cycling lanes connecting to the Portland Lakes trail system.

The connection to Portland Lakes trail system for pedestrians is part of the Active Transportation strategy and viewed as a continuation of that trail corridor and at the same time offering safe passage for residents on the west side of Eisener Blvd. The bike/pedestrian pathways are in place as a road narrowing measure that also provides traffic calming. I do not have any specific data on cycling on this road, but as noted above, it is intended for foot traffic as well.



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DARTMOUTH SOUTH - EASTERN PASSAGE



2022 District 3 Volunteer Award Recipient
Peter Lee



2022 District 3 Citizenship Award Recipient
Anna Claire Godin, Eric Graves Memorial Junior
High School

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2022 District 3 Volunteer Award Recipient
Graziella Thomas



2022 District 3 Citizenship Award Recipient
Brian Reid, Island View High School



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STATE OF THE MUNICIPALITY



The 2022 State of the Municipality event was held on April 28th. The annual event, hosted by the Halifax Partnership and the Halifax Chamber of Commerce, provides an overview of where we are as a municipality.

At the event, Mayor Mike Savage addressed the challenges of today and opportunities for growth. As Mayor Savage said at the event, "I believe that Halifax is a city for today and more and more a city for tomorrow. We are building a city for everybody, and the work continues."

Here are some key points from the Mayor's address, shared by the Halifax Partnership:

☞ The fastest-growing demographic in Halifax has been people ages 15- 34 years, with Mayor Savage stating that "Halifax is now becoming the destination for young people, not the departure point."

☞ Halifax was the first city in Canada to be recognized by the UN High Commission on Refugees to be named a welcoming city for refugees.

☞ Halifax has the highest number of housing units under construction ever, with the mayor adding that while this is good, it's still not enough. "We are in a housing crisis. It is time to put aside ego and jurisdiction to find solutions that address supply and affordability."

☞ Speaking about the new Cogswell District project, the mayor said it will be "a neighbourhood where inclusiveness goes beyond symbols and words. Where people will live, work, and play. Where we can grow together and thrive."

RCMP Road Safety Stats

District 3 - April 2022
Eastern Passage

- ☎ **222 calls for service in April 2022**
Up 8.8% from April 2021
- 🚫 **7 Summary Offence Tickets (vs. 8 issued in April 2021)**
2 speeding, 3 aggressive driving, 1 cell phone, 1 other MVA (no registration)
- 👤 **63 Proactive Assignments (vs. 46 in April 2021)**
18 Cell phone/Impaired/Seatbelt/Speeding checkpoints
- ⚠️ **48 Traffic Stops (vs. 49 in April 2021)**
0 Impaired Driving Charges (vs. 2 in April 2021)
1 Impaired Suspension (vs. 3 in April 2021)
- 🚗 **3 Motor Vehicle Accidents (vs. 6 in April 2021)**
• None of these accidents resulted in injuries

Please Drive Safely!

Impaired Driving Statistics

From Halifax Regional Police

- In **April 2022**, 40 drivers were charged with impaired-related offences.
- 26 were alcohol-related, 4 were drug-related.
- 18 of these drivers - who provided breath samples - were at least twice the legal limit. 7 of the drivers refused a breath sample and were charged with the offence of refusal.
- Police received 19 calls in April from citizens who suspected impaired drivers.

If you see a potential impaired driver:
Call 911 immediately. Give the call taker your location, a description of the vehicle, including the license plate number, colour, make and model, the direction of travel for the vehicle and a description of the driver.



BELL LAKE ENGAGEMENT

Since I've been elected, I have had many residents in the Woodlawn area, particularly around Bell Lake, that have raised issues associated to the trails, infrastructure, and water access to Bell Lake. Historically, Abenaki Aquatic Club has had the most water access to Bell Lake and certainly has proven to be wonderful stewards of the lake and champions for community participation. The remainder of the lake continues to have very natural pathways, with boulders and roots that can be dangerous, inaccessible, and problematic for strollers, mobility aids and bicycles.

I have recently taken a walk around the lake with HRM staff from Community Development, Parks Maintenance, and Capital Projects to see what is currently in place around Bell Lake. Going forward, my hope is to engage with residents in the area, as well stakeholder groups to hear what their perspectives are, what they like about the lake and what is missing, if anything.

Once we have gathered some insight in to wants, needs etc., we will meet with the community to share what we heard, possible changes and get more feedback, all through round table discussions. All of this will be to measure community interest in bringing a motion to Regional Council to create a master plan for this park.

These are basic plans, stay tuned for more details.



2022 District 3 Volunteer Award Recipient
Kelly Legatto



2022 District 3 Volunteer Award Recipient
James MacDonald



READY TO BUILD A SECONDARY OR BACKYARD SUITE?

Are you considering adding a Secondary or Backyard suite to your property? These can be used by aging parents or adult children or can be used as rental units for the general public. Regional Council approved Backyard Suites in 2020. The new rules apply almost everywhere in the Halifax Regional Municipality for single-detached houses, duplexes, semi-detached houses, and townhouses/rowhouses.

Determine your desired type of installation:

- **Backyard Suites** are separate free-standing buildings, either built overtop an accessory structure like a garage, or simply on their own (i.e., granny suites, carriage flats or tiny homes). A Backyard Suite must satisfy all Building and Plumbing Code requirements as they apply to a residential dwelling. There will also be a lot coverage restriction that will determine how large the structure can be, applied by the local Land Use bylaw (determined through the permit application process or by submitting a request for information through 311).
- **Secondary Suites** are separate dwelling units that are completely contained within a home (i.e., in-law suites or basement apartments). The total floor area of all storeys of a Secondary Suite cannot be more than 80% of the total floor area of all storeys of the Main Suite, excluding the garage and any common spaces that serve both suites, or 80 m² (861 ft²), whichever is the lesser.

Apply for a Permit:

You can get permission to install or construct a secondary or backyard suite by applying for and obtaining a permit through HRM. Visit our [website](#) to learn more about applying for either a Secondary Suite or a Backyard Suite (and the various requirements for each), and to start your permit application process online.

You can also call 311 and submit a service request if you would like to have a Planner contact you directly to help you get started. Our website provides step-by-step information on the permit [application process](#).

Other considerations:

It is important to review, and follow other requirements that may be involved in addition to obtaining a permit as applicable, such as [building code and regulatory information](#). Here are other important steps involved in completing your new construction (as applicable to your property):

- **Well/Septic tie-in or construction (NS Environment):** Contact 902-424-7773
The National Building Code will require confirmation that either tie-in to an existing septic, or a new septic system has been reviewed and accepted by NS Environment.
- **Municipal Water Connection (Halifax Water):** Contact 902-420-9287 or customercare@halifaxwater.ca
- **Power Connection (NS Power):**
Contact 1-800-428-6230

You may also find HRM's "**Renos: Additions & Renovations**" [FAQ document](#) helpful for more information on getting started.



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THE WEATHER IS WARMING UP – IT’S NOT SAFE TO LEAVE YOUR PET IN THE VEHICLE

The RCMP and the SPCA are encouraging all motorists to think twice before leaving your pets in your vehicle for any amount of time. Leaving your window cracked or parking in the shade makes almost no difference, according to the SPCA.

Even during a quick trip into the grocery store, the inside of your vehicle can heat up quickly and become intolerable for pets. Please leave your pet at home, or only visit pet-friendly businesses.

If you witness an animal exhibiting the following signs, they may be in distress (according to the SPCA):

- Exaggerated panting
- Rapid or erratic pulse
- Anxious or staring expression
- Weakness and muscle tremors
- Lack of coordination
- Red or blue tongue and lips
- Convulsions or vomiting
- Collapse or coma

Here are things to do if you come across an animal in a vehicle that appears to be in distress:

- Look for the owner of the car. Go to nearby stores and have the owner paged.
- If you cannot locate the owner, call your local police and stay at the vehicle until police arrive. Do not contact police unless the animal is obviously distressed.

- If you are unsure if an animal is in distress, call the Nova Scotia SPCA at 1-888-703-7722
- Follow up by filing a report with the Nova Scotia SPCA either online or by phone and ensure that you obtain a license plate of the vehicle.

Let’s keep our four-legged friends safe this summer!



You're Invited!

**Councillor
Becky Kent's
Seniors Tea Social**

**Wednesday, July 27th
Regal Heights Church
1pm - 2pm**

Please register by contacting my coordinator, Emily:

**smithem@halifax.ca
902-490-7177**

HALIFAX





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PLEASE DRIVE SLOWLY SIGNS AVAILABLE

If you are interested in a slow down sign for your lawn/personal property, please email me. These signs are made of plastic and come with the lawn stakes for installation.



Please be informed that the District 3 "Please Drive Slowly" signs are NOT a traffic calming measure, and they have no authority to direct or slow down traffic or make children safer on the streets.

COLLECT IMPORTANT DATA ON LITTER WITH THE LITTERATI APP!

HRM has launched Litterati, an interactive tool that allows YOU to get involved and collect data on litter trends around the municipality - it's now available for residents to download! 📱

The data helps flag areas that require litter mitigation strategies, such as community outreach and/or enhanced waste receptacles. One of the key features of the Litterati app is its ability to host community challenges:

👉 The municipality launched its first clean up challenge on April 22, 2022 (Earth Day). Over 1,000 pieces of litter were collected on the first challenge.

👉 Now, HRM has launched a year-long challenge to collect and document 20,000 pieces of litter. This challenge can be found on the Litterati App by searching CLEANHRM. Other challenges will be issued over the summer and fall.

Let's get going – you can download the free app today:

1. Download the free *Litterati – Cleaning The Earth* app from the [Apple App Store](#) or the [Google Play Store](#) and create your account.
2. Sign up for a cleanup challenge (watch our [webpage](#) or the Halifax Recycles [Facebook](#) page for upcoming challenges).
3. Clean up & take photos.
4. Upload your photos via wi-fi when you are done.
5. Tag your photos in the gallery after uploading.

For more information on the Litterati app, visit our [website](#) or contact Wasteless@halifax.ca. Litterati is also funded in part by Divert NS and Nova Scotia Environment and Climate Change.



UPCOMING REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETINGS



There are two Regional Council meetings scheduled for June:

- Tuesday, June 14th (10:00 a.m.)
- Tuesday, June 28th (10:00 a.m.)

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

Please be advised that Regional Council will return to in-person meetings beginning on June 14th. I encourage you to view the meetings virtually or attend in-person once we can do so. Agendas and links to watch the meeting are provided on the webpage I referenced above – I hope you can join us!

COMMUNITY COUNCIL SCHEDULE AND AGENDA

The Harbour East – Marine Drive Community Council normally meet 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. The next Community Council meeting will take place today, Thursday May 5th. Due to COVID-19, this meeting will be held virtually. Meeting dates, time and location are subject to change. You can find agendas, report, and minutes [online](#).

CONTACT

Should you wish to discuss municipal services or programs, please contact me at becky.kent@halifax.ca or **902-478-5368**. For routine municipal matters, please call our Citizen Contact Centre at **311**. To reach my office, please call Emily Simonov at **902-490-7177**.

To sign up for my monthly e-newsletter, please e-mail Emily at smithem@halifax.ca. For information on all things municipal, please visit our [website](#).