



COUNCILLOR KATHRYN MORSE
DISTRICT 10 ONLINE NEWS
 HALIFAX - BEDFORD BASIN WEST

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KESHEN EXPANSION APPROVED

On July 12th Regional Council unanimously approved a major renovation for the Keshen Goodman Library on Lacewood Drive. Built in 2000, Keshen Goodman now serves more than double the population it was originally designed for. That works out to 400,000+ per year,

making it one of HRM's most used libraries. The library is a popular study and hangout spot for Halifax West students, a social hub for seniors, and its English language classes have long wait lists. In the report that came to council explaining the need for the renovation, I was surprised to learn Keshen Goodman lends out almost as many books and videos as the much larger Central Library (KG has 85% of Central's circulation!).



The \$7 million renovation will increase space in the library as well as improve energy efficiency and accessibility. The side of the building closest to the parking lot will be expanded out to create a new work space for staff. The area currently used by library staff will be glassed in to create a soundproof computer lab and gaming area for teens. Soundproofing elements will also be added to the ceilings and quiet study booths will be installed.



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The children's area (shown above) will be updated with new play elements and the whole library will get a refresh of new carpets, furniture, paint and lighting. A special loading bay will be added to improve delivery of all those books that are being circulated every day. The renovation will start this fall and the library will remain open throughout the project.

KEARNEY LAKE REOPENS



It was disappointing to see Kearney Lake and neighbouring Papermill Lake closed for swimming earlier in mid-July because of high bacteria counts. HRM tests its urban lakes frequently during the summer, and it's becoming more common to see bacteria levels go up, especially after rain storms. The bacteria can be naturally occurring and can be made worse by high lake temperatures, dog feces, leaking septic systems, and

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fertilizer running off lawns. Fortunately both lakes reopened within a few days, after being retested and found safe. Just in time for some of the hottest days of the year!

It's great that bacteria levels have dropped, but it's worrisome that they went up in the first place. HRM's regular lake and beach sampling only looks at levels of bacteria, and does not identify the source so it's not always clear what's causing the problem. Last year I brought a motion to Regional Council requesting a management plan for Kearney Lake, aimed at protecting the lake's water quality. My motion was passed by a majority on council, and since then, a water specialist has been hired and is working on the plan. The water specialist has been gathering data, has done a number of site visits to Kearney Lake, and has met with me and with Kearney Lake residents.

I'm looking forward to seeing her plan and recommendations when the final report comes back to Regional Council in the fall. With a plan and some prevention, hopefully closures like we saw this week at Kearney Lake will become less common in the future.

NATAL DAY IN HRM

Natal Day is fast approaching and there are lots of celebrations happening on Natal Day Weekend from Friday, July 29th – Monday, August 1st (Natal Day).



More details on all Natal Day activities will be shared on www.natalday.org, but I have captured most activities on the next page.



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Natal day, cont'd

Follow along with HRM's official social media pages for this information and be in-the-know on any municipal services on Natal Day. The following events are now confirmed for Natal Day weekend:

➡ **CONCERT:** [Grand Oasis x Natal Day Festival Series](#) from Friday, July 29th to Monday, August 1st. The four days of programming offer both Natal Day celebrations and a tribute to Emancipation Day. Festival artists include Ria Mae, Jah'mila, Aquakulture, AMA LOU, and events including a meet-and-greet with Bob the Builder and RUBBLE from Paw Patrol, the Buskers All-Star Finale, and more

➡ **FIREWORKS:** Halifax-Dartmouth Natal Day Harbour Fireworks (Saturday, July 30th, @10:00 p.m.; Rain Date Sunday, July 31st)

➡ **RACE:** [Macpass Bridge Mile](#) (Sunday July 31st, @8:00 a.m.)

➡ **CONCERT:** 16th Annual African Nova Scotian Music Association 'Freedom Festival' (Sunday July 31st, @1:30 p.m.), part of the 2022 Dartmouth Summer Sunshine Series free concerts at the Dartmouth Ferry Terminal Park

➡ **BRIDGE WALK:** [Macdonald Bridge Walk](#) (Sunday July 31st, @2:00 p.m.)

➡ **RACE:** [115th Annual Dartmouth Natal Day Road Race](#) (Monday, August 1st, @8:00 a.m.)

➡ **PARADE:** Pepsi Natal Day Parade (Monday, August 1st @10:00 a.m.). This year's Pepsi Natal Day Parade will start in Halifax at the Hydrostone, cross the Macdonald bridge and end in Dartmouth at Sullivan's Pond.

Residents are also reminded that Halifax Transit will be offering free transit service on Fridays and free Alderney Ferry service on Saturdays as part of the municipality's [Free Fares Fridays & Free Sail Saturdays](#) program.

EMANCIPATION DAY: AUGUST 1

In 2021, Nova Scotia officially designated August 1 as Emancipation Day, a time to reflect and acknowledge our shared history of the enslavement of people of African descent in Canada. Recognizing Emancipation Day provides an opportunity to maintain ongoing meaningful dialogue around race relations and an inclusive society, and to celebrate the diverse heritage, culture and contributions of people of African descent across the region.

➡ On August 1st, 1834, the Slavery Abolition Act of 1833 became law across the British Empire, including upper and lower Canada. On this day, the practice of slavery officially ended for millions of African people and their descendants around the world.

➡ On March 24th, 2021, the House of Commons unanimously voted to designate August 1 as Emancipation Day in Canada. The Province of Nova Scotia officially designated the day on April 21, 2021.

The institution of slavery was foundational in the systemic anti-Black racism that impacts present-day people of African descent. The municipality is committed to addressing anti-Black racism in our workplaces and communities and will continue to take steps to advance change.

LOCAL EVENTS TO RECOGNIZE

EMANCIPATION DAY:

Raising of the Pan-African Flag

Wednesday, July 27th | 10:00 a.m.

Grand Parade, 1770 Barrington Street



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African Nova Scotian Music Association (ANSMA) Freedom Festival

Sunday, July 31st | 1:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Dartmouth Waterfront Ferry Terminal Park

Natal Day Parade

Monday, August 1st | 10:00 a.m.
Route: Beginning at the Hydrostone in Halifax, crossing the Macdonald bridge and ending at Sullivan's Pond in Dartmouth. Join this year's grand parade marshals, the United African Canadian Women's Association (UACWA), as they kick-off the 2022 Natal Day Parade in celebration of Emancipation Day.

[Emancipation Day Celebration at Grand Parade](#)

Monday, August 1st | 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
Grand Parade, 1770 Barrington Street

CANOE '22 – YOU'RE INVITED!

The world's best paddlers are coming to Dartmouth from August 3-7 to compete on Lake Banook. The 2022 ICF Canoe Sprint and Paracanoe World Championships will bring 1000 athletes from over 70 countries to our city. Find out more information [on their website](#). You're invited to cheer on the athletes or [get directly involved in this event as a volunteer](#).

NATIONAL ACADIAN DAY / LA FÊTE NATIONALE DE L'ACADIE

National Acadian Day, August 15th, is an opportunity for Canadians to learn about, and participate in, the cultural festivities and traditions of the Acadian people. The Acadian people have celebrated Acadian Day on August 15 since 1881, the year in which the first National Acadian Convention was held in Memramcook, New Brunswick. The municipality has the largest Acadian and Francophone community in Nova Scotia. Across the

region, we have been fortunate to benefit from the contributions of vibrant Acadian communities. This year marks the 10th year the municipality has held a flag raising ceremony to commemorate National Acadian Day!

Come celebrate the Acadian Day festival on the Grand Parade Square in Halifax on Friday, August 12th starting at 7:00 p.m.!

Festival Quinzou is presenting Halifax Acadian Day in partnership with Halifax Civic Events and Conseil communautaire du Grand Havre. The concert will feature Jacques Surette, Ashley MacIsaac, Ça Chante Encore (Nicole Deveau, Michelle Deveau, Elyse Delaney, Jude Pelley and Chris Babineau), Weldon and Josée Boudreau with Ryan Boudreau, Serena Wu, Maxim Cormier and Gervais Cormier. For more information, please visit www.quinzou.com

La Fête Nationale de l'Acadie, le 15 août, est une occasion pour les Canadiens de s'informer sur les festivités et les traditions culturelles du peuple acadien et d'y participer. Le peuple acadien souligne la Fête de l'Acadie le 15 août depuis 1881, année durant laquelle a eu lieu la première Convention nationale acadienne à Memramcook, au Nouveau-Brunswick. La municipalité et la communauté acadienne et francophone la plus importante de la Nouvelle-Écosse. Partout dans la



région, nous avons eu la chance de bénéficier des contributions de communautés acadiennes dynamiques. Cette année marque la dixième année que la municipalité tient la cérémonie de lever du drapeau pour commémorer la Fête nationale de l'Acadie.

Venez célébrer la fête de l'Acadie sur le Grand Parade Square à Halifax, le vendredi 12 août à partir de 19h!

Le Festival Quinzou présente La Fête de L'Acadie à Halifax en partenariat avec le Conseil communautaire du Grand Havre et Halifax Civic Events, mettant en vedette Jacques Surette, Ashley MacIsaac, Ça Chante Encore (Nicole Deveau, Michelle Deveau, Elyse Delaney, Jude Pelley et Chris Babineau), Weldon et Josée Boudreau avec Ryan Boudreau, Serena Wu, Maxim Cormier et Gervais Cormier. Pour plus d'informations, visitez www.quinzou.com

HELP CHOOSE A NAME FOR CORNWALLIS STREET

Help the municipality rename Cornwallis Street by taking part in [this short survey](#). Simply select your three preferred street names out of 15 shortlisted names (including five commemorative names and 10 non-commemorative names). The survey will remain open until September 6.

Once this second survey period has concluded, the Advisory Group for this initiative will review the results and a final recommendation report will be made to Regional Council on the proposed new street name (including one recommended name, as well as three alternative street names), for Regional Council's consideration and decision.

This renaming project is one of the recommendations of the Task Force on the Commemoration of Edward Cornwallis and the Recognition and Commemoration of Indigenous History, and a step towards reconciliation.

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HRM SEEKING PUBLIC ART PROPOSALS FOR NEW HALIFAX COMMON AQUATICS FACILITY

The Municipality is seeking public art proposals to be integrated in the new Halifax Common Aquatics Facility. This is a great opportunity for qualified artists to design, fabricate, and install public art. Successful artists will work in collaboration with the municipality's project team.

The deadline for public art proposal submission is September 19. More information about submitting art proposals can be [found here](#).

The Halifax Common Aquatics Facility project will include a 13,500 square foot pool with capacity for 450 people, a new playground, and a year-round pavilion with a community room, kitchenette, modular stage for performers, and natural shade areas from tree groves and overhand features of the structure. It is anticipated the new facility will be open to the public in summer 2023.





APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN: RECREATIONAL TRAILS CAPITAL GRANTS PROGRAM

We ❤️ our local trails, and applications are open for HRM’s Recreational Trails Capital Grants Program to maintain and improve them. Community associations in the municipality play a significant role in operating and maintaining recreational trails to support healthy living and recreation. These three grant programs are to support the work of these associations:

- Recreational trails capital grants
- Recreational trails re-capitalization grants
- Recreational trails maintenance and operations grant program

The Recreational Trails Grants Program is available to eligible applicants and was established to support the municipality's recreational trails objectives that are implemented in conjunction with community associations. [Apply here](#) by September 1st, 2022.

HRM’S REC VAN IS ON THE ROAD THIS SUMMER!



HRM’s Parks & Recreation REC Van is stacked with equipment for more than 50 different activities and sports and they may be headed to a location near you!

Check out their daily stops scheduled every Monday-Thursday until August 26th. They might even be planning a stop in your own neighbourhood! [Visit our website](#) for the schedule and weather updates.

Questions? Contact: recvan@halifax.ca

ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION MADE EASIER WITH HALIFAX TRANSIT

Great news for active people!

- 🚲 E-bikes can now be transported on bus bike racks.
- 🛴 Manual scooters can now be transported on buses if they are folded and stored on your lap.
- 🚲 Fat tire bikes can now be transported using new bike racks on the ferries, as shown here:



At this time, gas-powered bikes and motorized transportation devices, such as segways, e-scooters, and hoverboards, are not permitted on Halifax Transit conventional buses or ferries; however, a storage solution to safely store and transport e-scooters on ferries is currently underway.

These changes demonstrate HRM’s commitment user feedback, support integrated mobility and active transportation use, and align with the municipality’s commitments to climate action.

And don’t forget, Halifax Transit is offering free transit service for the months of July and August, as part of the municipality’s Free Fares Fridays & Free Sail Saturdays program. More information can be found on the [Halifax Transit website](#).



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BE AWARE: BLUE-GREEN ALGAE

⚠️ Blue-green algae, or cyanobacteria, are naturally found in freshwater environments like lakes, ponds, rivers, and streams. They thrive in warm water and can be harmful to people and fatal for pets.

Algae blooms can look like fine grass clippings in the water, spilled paint, pea soup or sometimes like a thick scum on the surface. Algae mats can look like clumps of vegetation, and can appear black, brown, or dark green in the water. On the shoreline they may appear brown or grey.

Here are some tips for staying safe this summer:

- When visiting a lake, river, stream, or pond, always scan the water and shoreline before entering the water or letting children or pets play in it.
- Pets may be attracted to the smell of algae mats.
- Do not allow pets to play with or eat algae mats, as it could be fatal.
- If a beach is closed, do not swim or play near the water.
- Swimming in contaminated water may cause itchy and irritated eyes and skin, including hives, rashes, or blisters.
- People or animals that consume contaminated water are at risk of headaches, fever, diarrhea, vomiting, cramps, muscle, joint pain, and liver damage.
- Do not drink or cook with water where blue-green algae are present. Boiling water will not remove toxins.

Watch for advisories by visiting [HRM's website](#) and following @hfxgov on Twitter. Report suspected algae contamination by calling 1-877-9ENVIRO (1-877-936-8476) and 311. [Learn more on our website.](#)

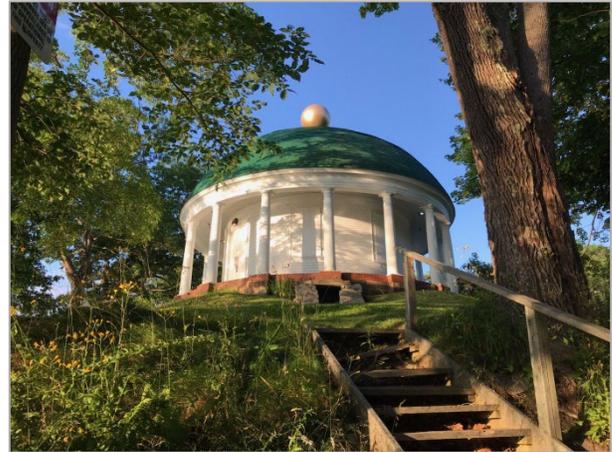


PHOTO: PRINCE'S LODGE ROTUNDA IN SUMMER

LET'S CONNECT

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