



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

## MESSAGE FROM BECKY

Hello District 3 Residents,

I hope you all had a wonderful summer and had the chance to relax, recharge and spend time with family and friends.

With the arrival of September comes the beginning of a new school year. I wish everyone heading back to school this fall a fantastic year, full of learning and excitement.

Throughout fall, I will be hosting town hall meetings around the district. This will be an opportunity for you to share your municipal questions and concerns with me in-person. I encourage you to sign up and look forward to seeing you there!

I am pleased to announce that the 2023 Volunteer Award nominations are now open. Do you know an outstanding volunteer? Give them the recognition they deserve! Nomination forms and more information can be found below in this newsletter.

As always, please reach out to me by phone or e-mail with any of your municipal concerns or questions.

Happy Fall!

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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## NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION: SEPTEMBER 30

September 30<sup>th</sup> is now a federal statutory holiday called the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. Formerly known as Orange Shirt Day, this day provides an opportunity to recognize and commemorate the ongoing legacy of residential schools, ensuring that this tragic part of Canada's history - that continues to have lasting impacts - is never forgotten.

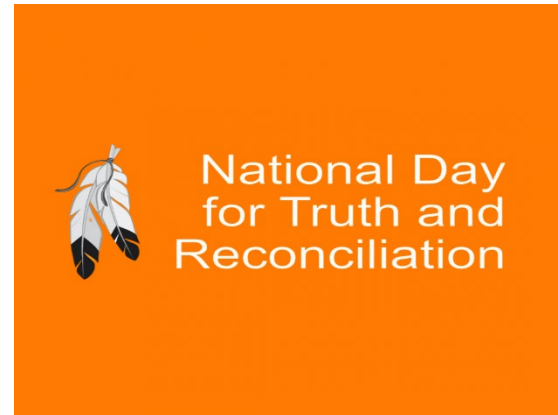
Every year on October 1<sup>st</sup>, Nova Scotians also mark Treaty Day to celebrate the rich history, proud culture, and important contributions of Mi'kmaq. These centuries-old treaties honour the enduring bond of friendship and respect between Nova Scotia's Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities and reaffirm the historic presence of the Mi'kmaq who have occupied the land for thousands of years. I encourage you to wear an orange shirt on September 30<sup>th</sup> and attend these commemorative events, as I plan to do:

**Ceremony for National Truth & Reconciliation Day on Grand Parade Square:**  
September 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

**Flag raising for Treaty Day at Grand Parade:**  
October 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 11:30 a.m.

While Treaty Day is officially October 1<sup>st</sup>, this year's flag raising will be taking place in Grand Parade Square on October 3<sup>rd</sup>. There will be a church service, readings, drumming/dancing and more on this day.

Stay tuned for more details, closer to the date.



## TOWN HALL MEETINGS

District 3 - Dartmouth South - Eastern Passage

**Join Councillor Becky Kent from 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm to discuss community matters:**

**Wednesday, Sept 21<sup>st</sup>** Eastern Passage / Cow Bay Buffalo Club

**Thursday, Sept 29<sup>th</sup>** South Woodside South Woodside Community Centre

**Wednesday, Oct 19<sup>th</sup>** Dartmouth South Woodlawn Public Library

To register for any meeting, please contact Emily: [smithem@halifax.ca](mailto:smithem@halifax.ca) or 902-490-7177





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## INTRODUCING HRM'S YOUTH WORX PROGRAM

Calling all youth aged 16-24 who are struggling to find meaningful employment or simply looking for work experience!

You can get 24 weeks of paid work experience, training, and skill building with Youth Worx. The Youth Worx Program (formally called Youth Live) provides youth who face barriers to employment with training and mentorship in a supportive environment.

Participants will gain hands-on work experience operating the Youth Worx Café in the Sackville Sports Stadium and delivering and repairing green carts on behalf of the municipality. You will participate in job readiness workshops to improve your employability skills ...while earning an income!

Apply by September 26<sup>th</sup> for the October 2022 program. Learn more [here](#).

### For more information or to apply:

- 📞 Call 902.490.5589 or text 902.579.5446
- ✉ Send an e-mail to [youthworx@halifax.ca](mailto:youthworx@halifax.ca)
- 📱 DM on [Instagram](#)



## HAPPY TO CHAT BENCHES



You might notice some new “Happy to Chat” benches at Silver Sands Beach Park, Eastern Passage Commons (near the Pump Track), South Woodside Community Centre, Bel Ayr Elementary School Park, and Birches Park. These benches, inspired by an initiative in Great Britain, encourage you to chat with others who share the bench with you.

The Dartmouth Community Health Board initiated a conversation with a few Councillors to see if we could assist in bringing some of these benches to our districts. Councillor Austin, Councillor Mancini and I all agreed to work with staff to make it happen. Sharing stories or reflections can enlighten us all, build community and often lift our spirits. This is good for our physical and mental health. I hope you enjoy them!



## GRASS CUTTING AND FIELD MAINTENANCE

HRM's Parks staff has created brand new webpages to outline service standards and information on grass cutting and sports field maintenance across the municipality. You can check out either webpage to learn about these items and access frequently asked questions:

**GRASS CUTTING:** HRM staff and contractors cut the grass at 2,500 individual sites across the region and maintain over 75 million cumulative square meters of grass each year from May to October. Find information on our grass cutting program [here](#).

**SPORTS FIELDS:** Did you know that the municipality maintains over 300 sports fields and ball diamonds every year? Find information on maintenance standards for a sports field or ball diamond in your community [here](#).



## MOBILE SPECIAL WASTE DEPOT

Residents looking to dispose of household special waste not acceptable for curbside collection can



Household Mobile Special Waste Depots

HALIFAX

bring their materials to the mobile special waste depot events happening this fall across HRM. The next mobile special waste depot event taking place in District 3 will be held on **Saturday September 24<sup>th</sup> at Horizon Community School, 168 Redoubt Way.**

The mobile drop-off depot will be in operation from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and will take place rain or shine.

For more information on the municipality's solid waste program, including updates on future depot events and a complete list of accepted materials, please [visit the website](#), download the [Halifax Recycles app](#) or call 311.



## LET'S GET BACK TO SCHOOL...SAFELY!

It's back to school time again! I would like to remind all motorists to be extra vigilant with students walking, cycling, commuting, or travelling by school bus.

Each year, challenges arise with parking by-law compliance in school zones.

At the forefront of the parking rules in school zones is the safety of our children – and the safety of others, including parents dropping off their children, school bus drivers, teachers, and others who may happen to be walking or driving through the area. The rules are also in place so that buses and others can maneuver in the area as they need to.

It is key for those who frequent school zones – particularly parents – to be informed on how to drop off kids safely, and legally. Here are some **Park Safe** tips shared with me from HRM's Parking Enforcement and Compliance:



**No Parking signs:** This means a vehicle CAN stop in these areas to drop off and pick up school children. It does not, however, mean that the driver can arrive 15 minutes before school is dismissed and wait for their child. In many cases, the No Parking areas around schools are for specific periods of time such as from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. No Parking areas are normally located where it is safest to momentarily stop a vehicle to drop off and pick up children.

**No Stopping signs:** These areas are likely to be found at intersections, school crossing guard locations or crosswalks where there is a high concentration of students crossing the street. Drivers who park in these areas are jeopardizing the safety of students walking to and from school. Your vehicle cannot park OR stop within this signage.



**Stop signs:** Parking within 10 meters of a stop sign is not permitted. Parking there can obstruct the view of people crossing and driving.

**School Bus Zone:** School bus signage must be kept clear so that children can step off the bus and onto a curb instead of exiting on to the street.

**Blocking driveways:** Be a good neighbour. Watch out not to block entrances to garages or driveways

**Double parking:** Do not double park when dropping off and picking up students from school

**Crosswalk:** Please make sure there are five meters between your vehicle and any crosswalk marking to ensure children can be visible when crossing the street.

Let's all work together to ensure our children and youth have a safe transition back to the school season!



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### REGIONAL PLAN – WHAT’S NEXT?

HRM's Regional Plan sets out a common vision, principles and long-range, region-wide planning policies outlining where, when, and how future growth and development should take place between now and 2031.

We are now in Phase 3 of the Regional Plan (of five total). Certain adjustments can still be made to the plan as it currently stands, and it involves public engagement to hear the feedback of residents.

An in-person public hearing to hear feedback about the proposed amendments for Phase 3 will be held by Regional Council on Tuesday, September 27th at 6:00 p.m. in Regional Council Chambers (City Hall). Learn how you can participate by visiting our [website](#) or call the Municipal Clerk's office at 902.490.4210.

Here are the proposed Regional Plan amendments - part of Phase 3 of the Plan - that you can provide feedback on:

- Policy requiring Council to consider the policies and objectives of the priority plans (the Integrated Mobility Plan, Halifax Green Network Plan, HalifACT) as part of discretionary planning applications.
- Policy requiring Council to consider environmental and cultural values, relationship to wilderness areas, mobility planning, and climate action as part of secondary planning.
- Policy and regulations to support housing diversity, that remove regulatory barriers in land use by-laws for tiny homes and converted shipping container dwellings.
- Policy to allow the adaptive reuse of municipally registered heritage properties by development agreement.

- Policy to support ongoing work on community action plans for historical African Nova Scotian communities.
- Revised Conservation Design Development policy to improve its interpretation and implementation.
- Amendments to support site specific requests for development, including Birch Hill Mobile Home Park, Eastern Passage and more.
- Minor housekeeping amendments, including correction to watercourse setbacks for Cow Bay Lake, and accessory buildings in Eastern Passage/Cow Bay and corrections to the Service Requirements Map to ensure that lands currently serviced with water and/ or wastewater are accurately represented.

I encourage you to visit the Regional Plan [webpage](#) to learn more about these items and how you can provide feedback regarding other elements of the plan.

### ABENAKI FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENT

The funding announcement this summer for Abenaki Aquatic Club was a very exciting day: MP Darren Fisher announced \$500,000 toward a boathouse project. HRM also contributed to this significant contribution for the club.





## SUPPLEMENTARY FUNDING – HRCE

Regional Council has unanimously accepted the Supplementary Education Funding Agreement Annual Report for 2021-2022 from the Halifax Regional Centre for Education (HRCE).

HRCE Supplementary Education Funding from the municipality helps students across HRM to support fine arts programming, library support specialists, social workers, and other program and service enhancements for students.

HRM provides funding to local schools (Grades Primary-12) to directly help students in two ways: through Mandatory Education contributions (all NS municipalities are required to do this) and through Supplementary Education funding, which is unique to our municipality. Both contributions are set up as area tax rates, separate from general tax rates. Many people are not aware of why we pay this tax, and importantly, the great impact it has on our youth!

Thanks to Supplementary Education funding:

- ✓ All students in the HRCE from Grades Primary-12 had fine arts enhancements available to them throughout the 2021-2022 school year. This included the ability to have regular ensembles and rehearsals, fine arts specialists who worked with students (including a focus on African Nova Scotian and Mi'kmaq/Aboriginal cultures), music clinicians, access to three fine arts labs, special guest performers throughout the year, funding for fine arts resources for schools, free musical instruments, drama and visual arts workshops, a music therapy program, virtual lessons and much more!
- ✓ All schools in the HRM received the benefit of library support staff during the 2021-2022 school year.
- ✓ Social workers were available to meet the emotional, social, and family needs of students in crisis in many HRM communities.
- ✓ Eight teaching positions were funded to increase programming options for students.
- ✓ Financial and logistical support was provided for special projects and initiatives that would otherwise be unattainable for many school communities.

I am so pleased to be a part of Halifax Regional Council's stewardship efforts to continue this important financial support to enhance our students' learning and diverse experiences.

This [report](#) explains more about the program, and outlines exactly where this funding goes at each school.





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## 2023 HRM VOLUNTEER AWARD NOMINATIONS ARE NOW OPEN

Do you know an outstanding volunteer who gives back to your community? You can help give them the recognition they deserve! Nominate an adult, youth, or group for the 2023 HRM Volunteer Awards.

[Nomination forms](#) and detailed nomination criteria are available now. The deadline for nominations is Friday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

The HRM Volunteer Awards is annual event that puts a spotlight on residents who have made a difference in their community by donating their time and skills to various programs and services.

Successful nominees will be notified in March and will be invited to attend an awards ceremony during National Volunteer Week, taking place from April 16<sup>th</sup> to April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023.

Let's show appreciation for the work that volunteers do to help build stronger, healthier, and more supportive communities. Thank you, volunteers!



Kelly Schnare of Love Your Lake and I at PEHRA's Party in the Park Event



Dartmouth South Senior's Tea Social







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## RCMP Road Safety Stats

July 2022, District 3  
Eastern Passage

- 236 Calls for Service in July 2022 - Up 16.3% from July 2021
- 27 Summary Offence Tickets (vs. 16 issued in June 2021)  
1 cell phone, 15 speeding, 7 aggressive driving, 4 other MVA (e.g., unregistered vehicle, invalid inspection sticker, etc.)
- 44 Proactive Assignments (vs. 22 in July 2021)
- 20 Cell Phone/Impaired/Seatbelt/Speeding Checkpoints/Radar Enforcement
- 49 Traffic Stops (vs. 23 in July 2021)  
1 Impaired Driving Charge (vs. 2 in July 2021)  
No Impaired Suspensions (vs. 3 in July 2021)
- 3 Motor Vehicle Accidents (vs. 4 in July 2021)
  - None of these accidents resulted in injuries.
- 0 Vehicle/Pedestrian Accidents (same as June 2021)

**Please Drive Safely!**



Eastern Passage Cow Bay Summer Carnival Senior's Tea Social

## HRM REC FALL REGISTRATION

Registration for fall recreation programming is open!

Please Note: Registration for programs at Canada Games Centre, Cole Harbour Place, Zatzman Sportsplex and St Margaret's Centre are managed by the facility. Please visit their websites directly for their registration information.

For a complete list of available programs and to register, visit our [website](#).



## Impaired Driving Statistics

From Halifax Regional Police (July, 2022)

- In July 2022, 25 drivers were charged with impaired-related offences. These charges were all alcohol-related.
- 10 of these drivers - who provided breath samples - **were at least twice the legal limit.**
- 3 of the drivers **refused a breath sample** and were charged with the offence of refusal.
- Police received **7 calls in July** 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.



**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.

**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.

The next Community Council meeting will take place on Thursday October 6<sup>th</sup>. Meeting dates, times and location are subject to change. You can find agendas, reports, and minutes [online](#).

**UPCOMING REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETINGS**

There are two Regional Council meetings scheduled for September. **Regional Council meetings are held on Tuesdays:**

- September 13<sup>th</sup>
- September 27<sup>th</sup>

I look forward to participating in these meetings, and I hope you can join us – in person or by tuning in on YouTube! Check out the full schedule of upcoming meetings - including committees [here](#).

Meeting agendas (including the specific start time of 10:00 a.m. or 1:00 p.m.) and a link to watch the video are generally available by the Friday prior to the meeting. Reports on the items that councillors vote on are available and are linked throughout the meeting agenda.

**CONTACT**

Should you wish to discuss municipal services or programs, please contact me at [becky.kent@halifax.ca](mailto: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](mailto:smithem@halifax.ca)

For information on all things municipal, please visit our [website](#).