

COUNCILLOR IONA STODDARD DISTRICT 12 NEWSLETTER

*Timberlea - Beechville -
Clayton Park - Wedgewood*



HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

FALL 2022

DEAR RESIDENTS,



I am honoured to be your municipal representative on Halifax Regional Council for the areas of Timberlea, Lakeside, Beechville, Clayton Park West and Wedgewood. Thank you for your ongoing support and feedback. I always appreciate hearing

from you regarding matters in our district that need my attention.

Your input helps me to help you. I will do what I can to address these issues considering the challenges of like budget and staffing impacts relating to COVID-19. Halifax Regional Municipality and our contractors are still attempting to get qualified staff back on the job, including new hires. I hope this will happen soon, as we have work to do in District 12.

As most of the COVID-19 restrictions have been lifted, I have been pleased to attend more meetings and events in our community. In recent months, I attended the ribbon cutting for Nova Multifest 2022, the grand reopening of Shopper's Drug Mart in Clayton Park, along with Canada Day celebrations and a pancake breakfast at our local Royal Canadian Legion #156. I look forward to being involved in more events, including upcoming Remembrance Day ceremonies, and continuing to connect with community members throughout the year.

Yours truly,

Councillor Iona Stoddard

DID YOU KNOW?

- The Munroe Park bench has been replaced.
- Seasonal picnic tables have been placed at the Canada Games Centre.
- Rainbow Pride Crosswalks have been painted at the following intersections:
 - o Keshen Goodman Library
 - o Timberlea Village Parkway and St. Margarets Bay Road
 - o Beech Tree Run and St. Margarets Bay Road
 - o Farnham Gate Road and Parkland Road



PROJECTS IN PROGRESS:

- Rapid Flashing Lights for the crosswalk at Grandhaven Boulevard / Washmill Lake Drive: Now expected by Spring 2023 due to supplier delays.
- Picnic tables for Mainland Commons.
- More benches along our HRM trails.
- Traffic Control at St. Margaret's Bay Road / Timberlea Expressway.
- Major updates for the Keshen Goodman Library. *Learn more about these renovations on page 3!*

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NO. 2 CONSTRUCTION BATTALION APOLOGY

*With information from the Government of Canada and
The Royal United Services Institute of Nova Scotia*

To acknowledge the contributions and sacrifices of the No. 2 Construction Battalion and their families, an official apology parade and ceremony was held at the Truro Amateur Athletics Club Grounds on July 9th, 2022.

That day, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau issued a statement of apology on behalf of the Government of Canada to the members of No. 2 Construction Battalion. It reads as follows:

"Today, I offer the Government of Canada's apology for the appalling way the men of No. 2 Construction Battalion were treated.

For the overt racism of turning Black volunteers away when they offered to sacrifice their lives for us all—

For not letting Black service members fight alongside their white compatriots—

For denying members of No. 2 Construction Battalion the care and support they deserved—

For failing to honour and commemorate the contributions of the members of No. 2. Construction Battalion and their descendants—

For the blatant anti-Black hate and systemic racism that denied these men dignity in life and death—

We are sorry. Today, we see you, and we honour you.

And to the descendants, may you forever see yourselves as heirs to the memory of true Canadian heroes."

No. 2 Construction Battalion was authorized on July 5th, 1916, in Pictou, Nova Scotia, and was composed of Black men from across Canada, the United States and the British West Indies. In 1917, the men of No. 2 Construction Battalion left Halifax to deploy overseas in support of Canada's war efforts.

These soldiers served in France's Jura Mountains, near the Swiss border. The unit spent the First World War attached to No. 5 District, Canadian Forestry Corps, producing the critical wartime commodity of lumber. Despite their many sacrifices, these men persevered through prejudice and racism.

When the No. 2 Construction Battalion returned home, they were not entitled to any recognition. Sadly, an entire community was deprived of its heroes.

For more information on the Battalion history, on events leading up to the apology or to identify yourself as a descendant, please visit: www.no2-cef.ca

NOMINATIONS FOR HRM'S 2023 VOLUNTEER AWARDS

Do you know an outstanding volunteer who gives back to our community? You can give them the recognition they deserve! Each year, Halifax Regional Municipality recognizes the extraordinary contributions of individuals and groups who volunteer in our communities by presenting them with volunteer awards.

Residents can now nominate volunteers in three different categories: adult, youth (ages 13-19) and community group. Successful nominees will be notified in March 2023. An awards ceremony will coincide with National Volunteer Week (April 16th - 22nd, 2023).

Nomination forms and detailed nomination criteria are available now: www.halifax.ca/volunteerawards. The deadline for nominations for the 2023 awards is Friday, January 6th.

Please note that a volunteer cannot have received this award in the last five years. To find out if nominees have received this award in the past, please contact Meaghan Dalton at: Meaghan.dalton@halifax.ca or by telephone: 902-456-9683.





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SENIORS SNOW REMOVAL PROGRAM



There is a snow removal program available for seniors (ages 65 and older) and persons with disabilities to help ensure safe access to your home.

The Senior Snow Removal is a YMCA program provided in partnership with Halifax Regional Municipality, and oversees the clearing of front and back steps, walkways, ramps, and access to fuel tanks. Please note that the program does not include driveway clearing.

Those 65+ or persons with disabilities must also meet the following eligibility criteria:

- The participant must reside in a single dwelling home which is owned or rented;
- The participant, also including all individuals who live on the premises aged eighteen or older, must not exceed a total gross household income of \$32,000, and;
- The participant may not be a landlord.

The Senior Snow Removal operates on a first-come, first-serve basis. When maximum capacity is reached, the program will come to a close and individuals will be placed on a waitlist.

Call 902-483-3678 for more information. You can download the 2022/2023 application package online by visiting: <https://ymcahfx.ca/communityymca/ymca-senior-snow-removal/>

Completed applications may be faxed to 902-423-8530 or can be mailed or dropped off in person to:

Attention: YMCA Senior Snow Removal
Community YMCA
2269 Gottingen Street
Halifax, NS B3K 3B7

EXCITING BUILDING RENOVATIONS COMING TO KESHEN GOODMAN

Keshen Goodman Public Library is getting updates for public spaces in and around the facility! The project starts this fall and is expected to be completed in approximately 1.5 years. Here are some highlights:

Even more spaces to call your own: Look forward to a bookable meeting space for 4 persons, teens enclosed computer space, school-aged children area with kid-sized pods, adult-sized pods with open sides and dimmable lights, and getaway nooks.

More quiet spaces - and group spaces are being created, including:

- An addition between the building and parking lot for staff workspace frees up more space for community members.
- Organic-themed, soft elements dampen sound, such as a green lily pad carpet and felt acoustics panels shaped like clouds along the ceiling.
- Pods to interrupt sound carrying and provide you with a private space for work.

More outdoor features, including: Hammocks, bike stands, outdoor seating, and electrical outlets.

More accessibility features, including: A fully accessible washroom with an adult change table, way finding signs that are language-friendly, carpet tile leading to key areas, adjustable lighting in the adult study pods.

Keep checking for updates here: <https://bit.ly/3ICkklW> or stop by the library to watch the progress. Not to worry, Keshen Goodman will have full service throughout the renovations.





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NON-PROFIT TAX RELIEF

HRM's Tax Relief for Non-Profit Organizations Program is now open for application to be considered in next year's program (2023). This program can help some non-profit organizations reduce their annual property tax. Learn more about eligibility and find the application form online at the bottom of this webpage: www.halifax.ca/business/doing-business-halifax/tax-relief-non-profit-organizations

Applications can be mailed (see the address on the webpage noted above), e-mailed, or dropped off at any HRM Customer Service Centre. **Questions?** Please reach out to the program's designated email address at: nonprofittax@halifax.ca. Be sure to apply by Wednesday, November 30th, 2022.

FRASER LAKE UPDATES: FURTHER STUDY OF COMMUNITY GROWTH AND INFRASTRUCTURE RECOMMENDED

The public hearing for Phase 3 of the municipality's Regional Plan was approved on October 11th, 2022. As part of that staff report, the Fraser Lake area was included for further study in Phase 5 of the Regional Plan Review.

Development Proposal Background: There was a request by Clayton Developments Limited to extend the Urban Service Area boundary to enable residential development in this area, with an estimated 690 units proposed. Specifically, this area includes lands near Fraser Lake, 2832 St. Margaret's Bay Road, Timberlea (PIDs 40054306, 40054363, 40261729, 40689358, 40319550).

Feedback: Although staff did not actively seek public comment on this request during Phase 3, the request letter from Clayton Developments Limited was published on the Regional Plan Review *Shape Your City* webpage, and there were 17 submissions received and published in Attachment I and Attachment J of the staff report: <https://bit.ly/3goNriu>

These submissions expressed strong opposition to development on this site. Residents expressed concern about the ecological integrity of the site, the impact of increased traffic from a development of this size, and how it will impact water quality and nearby wilderness area. Concerns were also expressed by residents about a change to the Urban Service Boundary and how it may impact current residents and where the services would connect.

Current Status / Next Steps: Municipal staff are recommending further study of community growth and infrastructure in this area. Phase 4 of the Regional Plan is just beginning, and HRM staff are anticipating releasing a draft in Spring, 2023. The timing on Phase 5 is dependent on Council approval of Phase 4, but it is likely to occur in 2023/2024. Public feedback for the remaining phases is welcome and the Regional Planning team can be reached at regionalplan@halifax.ca or 902-943-9148 for comments or questions.

MY OFFICE IS HERE TO SERVE YOU

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Councillor's Contact

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Councillor Constituency Coordinator, Michelle Doucet

Phone: 902-490-6982 | Email: doucetmi@halifax.ca

HRM CITIZEN CONTACT CENTRE

Call 3-1-1 toll-free from anywhere throughout HRM and our agents can provide you with a wide variety of municipal information and services in over 150 languages using a telephone interpretation service. Their service includes reference numbers, which will assist you when following up.

Hours of operation: Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., Saturday and Sunday, 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.



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.

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