

NOVEMBER CONTENTS

New Accessible Swings and Accessibility Upgrades

District 10 has two new accessible swings! One is located at DJ Butler Park (99 Flamingo) and the other is at Fairview Heights Elementary playground (Willett and Coronation).

These swings are made like a child's car seat and provide buckle-in safety and lots of support. Many thanks to Fairview Heights VP Michael Corbett, teaching assistant Lisa Dorman and Birdland Rec's Renee Field for suggesting the addition of these swings, purchased with my capital funds. Also, a big thank you to HRM Parks staff. It takes a village to install an accessible swing! In other accessibility news, the Canada Games Centre has just opened accessible and gender-neutral change rooms and washrooms. You'll see new signage, new lighting, and new tiles. Sinks and counters of varying heights have been installed as well as lower push plates to make it easier for people in wheelchairs to open the doors. The change stalls, washroom stalls and shower stalls have all been upgraded for both accessibility and privacy.



ΗΛLIFΛΧ



HALIFAX - BEDFORD BASIN WEST

HRM Road Safety: Annual Update

You may have noticed some changes at the intersection of Lacewood and Dunbrack. Reflective markers and left turn calming speed bumps have been added and the crosswalks were repainted with zebra stripes for visibility. LPIs (Leading Pedestrian Intervals) have also been added to the traffic signals to give pedestrians a head start. These are just some of the ways HRM is working to improve safety at major intersections. These are not random changes, they are part of HRM's Strategic Road Safety plan. The plan uses data and evidence to target intersections with high collision rates and to determine which safety features are needed.

This week the city's Transportation Standing Committee received the 2022 annual road safety report. Results show HRM is making progress on reducing collision-related fatalities and injuries. For more <u>visit this webpage</u>.

Post Fiona Trees and Stumps - Contact 311

Please continue to call and email 311 for downed and damaged street trees (ContactUs@311.halifax.ca). HRM crews have hundreds of requests and they are dealing with hazards first, such as suspended trees and branches. Once they remove these "hangers", they will return within the next few weeks for chipping, removal of heaved stumps and cleanup.

Ancient Hemlock Falls in Rockingham

It was sad to see one of the oldest and most majestic trees in District 10 (and possibly in HRM) has fallen down, likely during Fiona. This is an Eastern hemlock, a native tree, located in Hemlock Ravine Park in Rockingham. I contacted a tree expert who estimated this tree was 470 years old!



Fortunately, Hemlock Ravine Park still has many beautiful old trees. Eastern hemlock is one of the longest living native trees in our part of the world. The oldest known hemlock in the Maritimes is 533 years old, located near Hubbards.

Remembrance Day 2022









HALIFAX - BEDFORD BASIN WEST

Indigenous Disability Awareness Month



November is Indigenous Disability Awareness Month (#IDAM), an opportunity to raise awareness and take action to support Indigenous communities and organizations that create culturally appropriate services and resources for Indigenous persons with disabilities.

Indigenous Disability Awareness Month was founded in 2015 to create awareness and understanding about the barriers Indigenous people with disabilities face each day.

DID YOU KNOW?

1 in 5 five Nova Scotians over the age of 15 identify as having a disability, while Indigenous people in Canada experience a significantly higher disability rate than that of the general population?

According to Statistics Canada, in 2017, 32 per cent of First Nations people living off reserve, 30 per cent of Metis, and 19 per cent of Inuit, have one or more disabilities. These statistics further underscore the importance of recognition and action related to IDAM in our region.

On October 31st there was an Indigenous Disability Awareness Month Flag Raising and Proclamation at City Hall, with an opening Prayer & Song from Elder and Raymond Sewell.

Senior Snow Removal Program



There's no denying it – winter is on its way. 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





HALIFAX - BEDFORD BASIN WEST

visiting: <u>https://ymcahfx.ca/communityymca/ymca-</u> 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

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 and banquet with Mayor Mike Savage and Regional Council will coincide with National Volunteer Week (April 16th – 22nd, 2023). Nomination forms and detailed nomination criteria are <u>available online</u>. The deadline for nominations for the 2023 awards is Friday, January 6th.



Register for HRM's Annual Volunteer Conference: November 18th

Page | 4

Register now for HRM's annual volunteer conference!

When: Friday, November 18th, 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Where: DoubleTree by Hilton, 101 Wyse Rd Learn more and register online.

The conference is an opportunity for volunteers to connect, celebrate, and learn relevant skills to build stronger volunteer capacity throughout the municipality. Delegates representing a variety of organizations and causes will participate in two training workshops and networking activities and enjoy a keynote speech and seated meal.

This year's workshops will cover topics like grant opportunities, diversity and inclusion in the volunteer sector, collaboration as power, connecting with youth, marketing your organization, fundraising, volunteer recruitment and retention, community event planning, engaging your community, healthy board practices, rural perspectives in volunteerism, and improving accessibility in the volunteer sector.

Green Cart Tips for Winter

Our Solid Waste Resources recently shared some helpful tips for dealing with our green carts in winter.

When temperatures drop, materials in green carts can freeze and cause issues for both residents and waste haulers. To avoid some of the problems associated with green cart in the winter, they suggest some of these helpful tips:

Line the bottom of the green cart with newspaper or





HALIFAX - BEDFORD BASIN WEST

boxboard, like a cereal box or yard waste bag, and line your mini-bin and green cart with a paper bag

• Food waste can be stored in the freezer until collection day, then deposited in your green cart just before collection

Place your green cart in an area where the sun can reach it, if possible (to avoid freezing!)

• Wrap food scraps in newspaper, boxboard, or a paper bag

Put out your green cart to the curb for every collection, even if the cart is not full

More information on green carts can be found on the <u>Halifax webpage</u>.

Let's Connect

Councillor Kathryn Morse District 10 – Halifax – Bedford Basin West PO Box 1749, Halifax NS, B3J 3A5 902-497-7278 | <u>kathryn.morse@halifax.ca</u>

Council Constituency Coordinator: Ken Benoit 902-490-7184 | <u>benoitk@halifax.ca</u>

311 Contact Centre Dial 311 or e-mail <u>ContactUs@311.halifax.ca</u>

It's Christmas Craft Fair Season!



