



COUNCILLOR TRISH PURDY

DISTRICT 4 ONLINE NEWS

COLE HARBOUR - WESTPHAL - LAKE LOON - CHERRY BROOK

DEAR RESIDENTS,

Happy December District 4!

It is hard to believe it is December already! I hope you have the opportunity this holiday season to spend time with loved ones and create some beautiful memories. I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a healthy, happy and prosperous New Year ahead.

I would also like to take this opportunity to remind folks that the holiday season can be difficult for some. I encourage you to check on those who may be alone this Christmas and offer a helping hand if you can. A little bit of kindness goes a long way.

As always, I encourage you to reach out to me anytime with any of your municipal concerns. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



December 2022

HALIFAX



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SQUARE ROOTS: DECEMBER DATES



Square Roots is a community interest company (not-for-profit) that aims to reduce food waste and food access challenges.

They provide fresh local produce that may get rejected by grocery stores for not being “pretty” enough to families in need for low or no cost. The dates for bundle pick up in December are the 9th and 16th. Please e-mail me at trish.purdy@halifax.ca to sign up and find out more.

COUNCILLOR DROP IN

The following Community Drop-In sessions are planned for the month of October. Please feel free to drop by to discuss any municipal concerns or questions, I would love to see you!

Selby’s Bunker, Cole Harbour Road
Thursday December 8, 5:00-6:00pm

Tim Hortons, Forest Hills Parkway
Friday December 9, 10:00-11:00am

December 2022

RECRUITMENT EXTENDED FOR THE YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The application deadline has been extended for residents who wish to serve on the Youth Advisory Committee. Applications will remain open until Tuesday, December 6th at 11:59 p.m. and are available on our [website](#). You can learn more about the YAC [here](#).

Municipal boards, committees, and commissions consist of councillors, residents and industry representatives. These groups provide recommendations to Regional Council, community councils or standing committees – and serve as an important part of the decision-making process.

Questions? please contact serve@halifax.ca or call 902-490-4210.

2



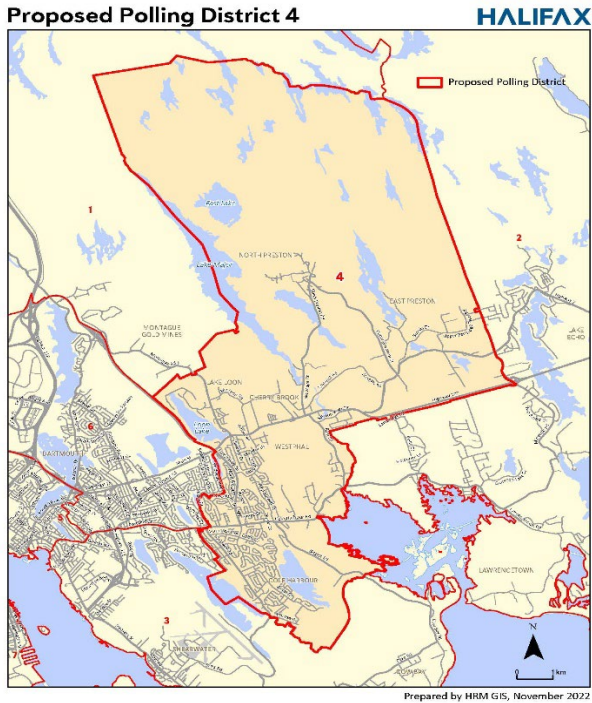
Congratulations to District 4 resident, Colin McCrae who received the late Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Award!



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DISTRICT BOUNDARY REVIEW ONGOING



You can still provide feedback on the proposed district boundaries as part of the [2022 District Boundary Review process](#). The District Boundary Review process reviews the number of councillors and the boundaries for each polling district. Changes made from the review’s recommendations will be in place for the 2024 municipal election.

Where are we in this process?

Phase 1 of the process determined the size of Council and its governance structure. It was agreed the number of districts (and Councillors) would remain at 16. We are now well into Phase 2, which sets the actual district boundaries. Public engagement on Phase 2 took place earlier this fall. It included many opportunities for feedback including a survey, public meetings, and more.

December 2022

The District Boundary Resident Review Panel received and accepted a “What We Heard” report from those public engagement activities. Following this feedback, the proposed district boundary maps have been updated.

I want to take this opportunity to say thank you to the community for sharing your concerns and feedback with the District Boundary Resident Review Panel. Your participation matters and the map was edited to reflect public feedback.

Look at what is currently proposed:

- ✓ View the What We Heard report and the newly updated proposed district boundaries maps [here](#).
- ✓ Access the interactive map that shows the new proposed boundaries [here](#).

You can still provide feedback:

- ✓ Attend meetings of the District Boundary Resident Review Panel and/or meetings of the Executive Standing Committee. Meeting schedule can be found [here](#).
- ✓ Send written submissions to the Municipal Clerks Office by email at clerks@halifax.ca, by mail at Municipal Clerks Office, PO Box 1749, Halifax NS, B3J 3A5, or by phone at 902-490-4210.

What happens next?

The Executive Standing Committee will advance the recommended map options to Regional Council in early December, and final recommendations will be submitted to the [Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board](#) for review.

More information on the District Boundary Review process can be found on our [website](#).



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NOMINATIONS FOR HRM'S 2023 VOLUNTEER AWARDS: JANUARY 6 DEADLINE

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 [available now](#).



Dwight Perkins of CHPTA with Councillor Kent and I at the Salt Marsh Trail.

OUTDOOR WORKOUT EQUIPMENT IN DISTRICT 4

Below is a photo of a piece of outdoor work out equipment at a municipal park in Dartmouth. Is this something you would like to see in District 4? If so, please let me know by e-mailing trish.purdy@halifax.ca or calling 902-240-3067. I appreciate any and all feedback.





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2023/24 BUDGET & BUSINESS PLANNING FOR HRM



The annual budget is a very important thing for the operation of our municipality; it funds all costs associated with servicing our municipality each year - ensuring we can have our roads plowed during a snowstorm, that we have recreational facilities to enjoy, regular garbage pickup and so much more!

The municipality's 2023/24 Budget and Business Planning process has now started and will continue until into the spring of 2023. Over the winter, municipal business units present plans to Regional Council with their intentions for the upcoming fiscal year, outlining the required budgets to achieve their goals. During this process, Regional Council will ask questions, discuss, debate, and consider each department's proposed priorities and budget. This can result in revisions to budget plans along the way.

The 2023/24 Budget and Business Plan approval date is scheduled for April 25th, 2023, where Regional Council will finalize next year's budget.

INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT THE BUDGET PROCESS?

- You can review the proposed schedule of budget presentations, learn about the budget process, and keep up to date on upcoming milestones [here](#).
- [Here](#) are some common questions and answers regarding the municipal budget, and how it is determined each year.
- To learn more about the current 2021-25 HRM Strategic Priorities Plan that helps inform the budget direction, visit our [website](#).

HAVE YOUR SAY ABOUT THE BUDGET:

- During every budget meeting, members of the public also have an opportunity to share their views on any aspect of the proposed municipal budget. You can speak directly to me as your Regional Councillor about budget priorities. During each meeting, time will be set aside for the public to provide insight and comments. If you wish to make any presentations before HRM Council about the municipal budget, then please contact the Municipal Clerks Office at clerks@halifax.ca or call 902-490-4210. Written submissions are also welcomed.

PROPOSED SCHEDULE OF BUDGET PRESENTATIONS FOR 2023/24:

Dates could change, so the most up to date information and more background on the budget process can be found [here](#).



HOLIDAY SHOPPING SAFETY TIPS FROM HRP



Online shopping

- It is best to shop from your personal device at home on a trusted network.
- Consider using different user ID and passwords for different accounts and updating your passwords frequently.
- Verify secure connections and make sure you are on a secure website. Look for the padlock icon in the address bar and check for the valid certificate by clicking on the padlock icon.
- Unlike secure order forms on a websites, email and text messages are not private. Don't send confidential personal or financial information by email or text.
- Be cautious, if an online deal looks too good to be true then it probably is.
- Watch out for email scams. Be wary of clicking on links in an email message, even if the deal seems great.
- After making purchases it can be helpful to keep the receipt, confirmation number and postal tracking numbers in a safe accessible place.
- If you are at an online store that you are unfamiliar with, read and understand the online shop's policies. It's always a good idea to check a site's reviews before making a purchase.

In-store shopping

- We encourage you to lock your vehicle and park in well-lit and busy areas if they are available.
- Would-be thieves will look for shoppers storing valuables in their vehicles. If you're going to drop off your purchases and return to the stores, consider locking your packages in the trunk and move your vehicle to another location in the parking lot.
- Thieves sometimes watch shoppers exiting a store. You may want to shop strategically and wait until the end of your shopping trip to make high-end purchases or make a special trip to take high-end items home and then return to continue shopping.
- Protect your PIN when using bank and debit machines. Cover the keypad to prevent someone from observing your keystrokes or from recording your PIN. It's a good idea to change your PIN frequently.
- After a day of shopping, we recommend removing parcels and valuables and locking the vehicle upon returning home. Even an empty shopping bag can create the appearance that there's something in your car worth stealing.





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SNOW CLEARING: MUNICIPAL SERVICE STANDARDS

With each weather event, snow clearing crews are responsible for approximately 3,844 lane kilometres of streets and about 1,000 kilometres of sidewalks! We can't control Mother Nature or what this winter has in store, but if we work together, we can all be better prepared for whatever the season may bring.

For more information on our municipality's Winter Operations program, and tips to help you prepare for inclement weather, please visit our [website](#).

SERVICE STANDARDS:

HRM has service standards for streets, sidewalks, and bus stops and the timing varies depending on the priority level. We prioritize commonly used streets, bus routes and roads that provide access to hospitals and schools. When the snow stops, operators work as quickly and safely to have all the roads cleared by 24 hours and major roads and bus routes within 12 hours.

Before contacting 311 about snow clearing, please ensure the service timelines for your area have expired. You can find detailed information about snow clearing service timelines on the interactive map or in the "when should clearing be complete?" section on the [website](#).

If your street or sidewalk has not been cleared by the indicated time in each chart, please e-mail ContactUs@311.halifax.ca or call 311 so crews can be dispatched to address the issue.

December 2022

If an emergency vehicle needs to access a street, staff dispatch a plow immediately to that street.

Residents should note that in snowfalls greater than 30 centimeters or in blizzard conditions, more time may be needed to complete clearing. The same exception may apply when there are rapidly changing weather conditions. Crews will continue working until all streets and sidewalks are clear and safe. Some roads are taken care of by the province, depending on where you live. Provincial road information is [here](#).

WINTER PARKING:

The municipal overnight winter parking ban is in effect annually from December 15th to March 31st. The ban is enforced from 1:00 to 6:00 a.m. during declared weather events and snow removal operations only. Sign up for hfxALERT notifications to receive important updates from the municipality, including Winter Parking Ban notifications [here](#).

For more information on service standards, winter parking, and winter's impacts across our municipality, visit our [website](#) or keep up to date on clearing operations and municipal service updates via [@hfxgov on Twitter](#).





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UPCOMING REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETINGS



There is one Regional Council meeting scheduled for December. **Regional Council meetings are held on Tuesdays:**

- December 13

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.

RCMP Road Safety Stats

October 2022, District 4
Cole Harbour / Westphal / Lake Loon / Cherry Brook

- 592 Calls for Service in Oct. 2022 - Down 19.9% from Oct. 2021
- 37 Summary Offence Tickets (vs. 56 issued in Oct. 2021)
5 cell phone, 8 speeding, 12 aggressive driving, 12 other MVA (e.g., unregistered vehicle, no insurance, no license, etc.)
- 134 Proactive Assignments (vs. 202 in Oct. 2021)
- 39 Cell Phone/Impaired/Seatbelt/Speeding Checkpoints/Radar Enforcement
- 90 Traffic Stops (vs. 198 in Oct. 2021)
2 Impaired Driving Charges (vs. 1 in Oct. 2021)
2 Impaired Suspensions (the same as Oct. 2021)
- 19 Motor Vehicle Accidents (vs. 25 in Oct. 2021)
• 1 of these accidents resulted in injuries.
- 0 Vehicle/Pedestrian/Cyclist Accidents (vs. 1 in Oct. 2021)

Please Drive Safely!

8

Impaired Driving Statistics

From Halifax Regional Police (Oct. 2022)

- In **October 2022**, 33 drivers were charged with impaired-related offences. 27 of these charges were alcohol-related, 6 were drug-related.
- 4 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 **15 calls in October** 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.



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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 Monday January 23rd, 2023. Meeting dates, times and location are subject to change. You can find agendas, reports, and minutes [online](#).

COMMISSIONER OF OATHS

As Councillor, I am also a Commissioner of Oaths. While in office, I may administer oaths and take and receive affidavits, declarations and affirmations within the Province for use within the Province.

If you require a Commissioner of Oaths, please contact me.

CONTACT

Should you wish to discuss municipal services or programs, please contact me at trish.purdy@halifax.ca or **902-240-3067**.

For routine municipal matters, please call our **Citizen Contact Centre at 311**.

To reach my office, please call Emily Simonov at **902-490-7177**.

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

December 2022

