



WELCOME JANUARY!

C.S. Lewis said: “ You are never too old to set a new goal or dream a new dream.” May 2023 be your year to achieve your goals and dreams and, may your troubles be less, your blessings be more and nothing but happiness come through your door - Happy New Year!

My Council colleagues and I start our new year with 2023/24 budget discussions. Undoubtedly, there will be some challenging decisions to make. My goal is to make the best decisions on your behalf with your support. Be sure to participate in the budget process as I value your input as you help guide me on decisions regarding municipal programs and services we strive to continue offering.

Keep reading for more information on Fall River Road speed reduction, volunteer nomination extension, winter driving tips and much more!

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JANUARY MEETINGS

Regional Council:

Tuesday, January 10th at 10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, January 24th at 10:00 a.m.

Budget Committee:

Wednesday, January 18th at 9:30 a.m.

Friday, January 20th at 9:30 a.m. **(Contingency)**

Wednesday, January 25th at 9:30 a.m.

Friday, January 27th at 9:30 a.m.

North West Community Council

Monday, January 16th at 7:00 p.m.

Please confirm meeting dates and times on the [municipal website](#) as they are subject to change.

NWCC UPDATE



North West Community Council: (Front Row l-r) Councillor Cathy Deagle Gammon, Councillor Pam Lovelace, Councillor Lisa Blackburn, (Back Row l-r) Councillor Tim Outhit, Councillor Paul Russell.

The December 12th meeting of the North West Community Council (NWCC) dealt with:

TABLING OF 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

NWCC deferred tabling the annual report pending request to include information on the contributions and role of the North West Planning Advisory Committee in 2022; and

clarification on which planning advisory committees directly report to community councils.

[Case 22691: Amending Development Agreement for 8 Walker Avenue and 732 Old Sackville Road, Lower Sackville](#)

A public hearing was held and closed December 12th. NWCC approved the proposed amending development agreement.

[Case 24361: Substantive Amendments to an existing Development Agreement at 97 Dartmouth Road, Bedford](#)

A public hearing was held and closed on December 12th. NWCC approved the proposed amending development agreement.

[Case 23293: Development Agreement at Beaver Bank Road and Windgate Drive, Beaver Bank](#)

Notice of motion was given and a public hearing scheduled for January 16th, 2023, on the request to enter into a Development Agreement by WM Fares Architects, on behalf of property owners, to build an apartment building on lands located near the intersection of Beaver Bank Road and Windgate Drive.

[North West Community Council Proposed 2023 Meeting Schedule](#)

NWCC approved the 2023 meeting schedule as circulated.

To view the full meeting agenda, [click here](#).



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DID YOU KNOW ...

January is [Alzheimer Awareness Month](#), [National Blood Donor Month](#) and [Sexual Assault Awareness Month](#).

- January 1st is [Global Family Day](#)
- January 2nd is [World Introvert Day](#)
- January 4th is [World Braille Day](#)
- January 6th is [World Orphans Day](#)
- January 8th is [World Typing Day](#)
- January 11th is [Sir John A. MacDonald Day](#)
- January 12th is [Kiss A Ginger Day](#)
- January 14th is [World Logic Day](#)
- January 16th is [Martin Luther King Day](#)
- January 18th is [Winnie the Pooh Day](#)
- January 22nd is [Chinese New Year](#)
- January 24th is [the International Day of Education](#)
- January 25th is [Robbie Burns Night](#)
- January 27th is [International Holocaust Remembrance Day](#)
- January 27th is [Family Literacy Day](#)
- January 28th is [International Lego Day](#)
- January 31st is [National Hot Chocolate Day](#)

VOLUNTEER NOMINATIONS EXTENDED



January 2023

Do you know an outstanding volunteer who gives back to our community? You can give them the recognition they deserve!

Nominations remain open for the 2023 Volunteer Awards until January 6th! For detailed criteria and online applications, visit <http://halifax.ca/volunteerawards>.

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).

2023/24 BUDGET - PUBLIC PARTICIPATION/SCHEDULE



You can review the proposed schedule of budget presentations, learn about the budget process, and keep up to date on upcoming milestones [here](#).

Click this link for [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, [click here](#).

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Residents will be given an opportunity to speak directly to Regional Council during the budget process. During each meeting, time is set aside for the public to provide insight and comments.



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Registered speakers (recommended):

Residents can register until 4:30 p.m. the business day prior to the meeting. Registered participants will be called upon to speak in the order in which they registered. Registration information will be included on the [Agenda](#) page for each meeting. If you have questions about registration, please contact the Clerk's Office at 902.490.4210 or by email at clerks@halifax.ca.

Non-registered speakers:

During the meeting, after all registered speakers have been called, the Chair will call three times to ask if there is anyone else present who would like to speak. At that time anyone who has not registered will have the opportunity to speak to budget committee.

BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING DATES

Please note: Meeting dates may be subject to change. Please confirm date/time of each meeting [here](#).

Wednesday, January 18th (contingency date: Friday, January 20th)

Recommendation Report and Presentation: Capital Budget Recommendation (Reserve Withdrawals, Multi-year Projects).

Wednesday, January 25th

Recommendation Report and Presentation: Assessment/Budget Direction Update.

Friday, January 27 (contingency date: Wednesday, February 8)

- Chief Administrative Office
- Finance & Asset Management
- Legal & Legislative Services

Wednesday, February 1 (contingency date: Friday, February 3)

- Halifax Regional Police
- Department of Justice/Royal Canadian Mounted Police

Wednesday, February 8 (contingency date: Friday, February 10)

- Information Technology
- Human Resources & Corporate Communications
- Property, Fleet & Environment

Friday, February 10

- Halifax Public Libraries

Tuesday, February 14 (contingency date: Wednesday, February 15)

- Public Works

Friday, February 17 (contingency date: Wednesday, February 22)

- Auditor General
- Planning & Development
- Parks & Recreation

Wednesday, March 1 (contingency date: Wednesday, March 8)

- Halifax Transit
- Halifax Regional Fire & Emergency

Friday, March 3 (contingency date: Wednesday, March 8)

- Halifax Regional Police
- Department of Justice/Royal Canadian Mounted Police
- Fiscal & Consolidated Accounts

Friday, March 10

- Budget contingency date (additional time, will be cancelled if not required)

Wednesday, March 29 (contingency date: Friday, March 31)

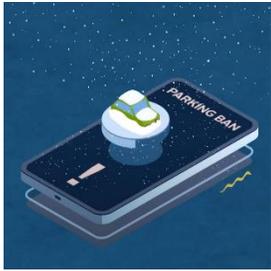
- Recommendation Report and Presentation: Budget Adjustment List (BAL) Review

Tuesday, April 25 (contingency date: Tuesday, May 2)

- Recommendation Report: 2023/24 Budget and Business Plan Approval.



WINTER PARKING BAN



Think ahead and be prepared for parking this winter, especially when snow is in the forecast. The overnight winter parking ban is in effect from December 15th until

March 31st, 2023. During this time, the ban will be enforced between 1:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m., only during declared snow and ice events and extended clearing operations.

The municipality may implement two zones for the overnight winter parking ban: Zone 1 – Central and Zone 2 – Non-Central.

Zone 1 – Central

Refers to the Halifax Peninsula and downtown Dartmouth within Highway 111 (the Circumferential Highway) and some surrounding areas.

Zone 2 – Non-Central

Is a designated area outside of Zone 1 – Central.

Residents are able to determine which zone they're in by searching their address using the interactive map available here:

<https://fal.cn/3uorH>.

Overnight winter parking bans will continue to be communicated to residents via hfxALERT, www.halifax.ca/snow and public service announcements (PSAs).

SNOW CLEARING / STREET INFORMATION



The municipality's extensive [Winter Operations](#) program uses in-house and contracted operators and equipment. With each weather event, crews are responsible for approximately 4,322 lane kilometres of streets. Stretched end to end, that's the same distance as driving from Halifax to Winnipeg.

With each weather event, snow clearing crews are responsible for approximately 3,844 lane kilometres of streets and about 1,000 kilometres of sidewalks! 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 quickly and safely to have all the roads cleared by 24 hours following the storm 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](#)



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

Snowfalls greater than thirty centimeters or in blizzard conditions require more time 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.

If your street is cleared by the province, you can [contact Nova Scotia Public Works](#) (NSPW) or call 511.

HELP CLEAR CATCHBASINS



There are 33,000+ catch basins in the municipality. If you can do so safely, help us out by clearing debris from a catch basin, yes, even

during the winter months. Clear catch basins help reduce flooding.

Find a catch basin near you by using the [Halifax Water](#) interactive map: <https://fal.cn/3uEFo>.

REDUCED SPEED LIMIT - FALL RIVER ROAD



Great news! The speed limit has been reduced from 60 km/h to 50 km/h on a section of Fall River Road in Fall River. The reduced speed zone is between Highway 2 and Garden View Drive.

New signage has been posted.

This change is a result of an assessment of the corridor, related to changes in conditions and activities along the roadway. This effort supports the municipality's [Strategic Road Safety Plan](#), which aims to reduce fatal and injury collisions on municipal roadways.



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WHAT GOES WHERE - POST HOLIDAY TIPS



Getting ready to take down your holiday lights after the New Year? HRM's What Goes Where can help you determine what to do with holiday items after the holidays.

Broken holiday lights or decorations you may have should be placed in your clear bag for garbage. If items have sharp edges, please place in a disposable box or container with a lid or tightly wrapped and taped in cardboard and clearly label them broken glass.

For more information on What Goes Where, download the free Halifax Recycles app or visit <http://www.halifax.ca/whatgoeswhere>.

RCMP ROAD SAFETY STATS

RCMP Road Safety Stats
November 2022, District 1
Fall River / Waverley Rd. / Musquodoboit Valley

- 601 Calls for Service in Nov. 2022 - Down 20.3% from Nov. 2021
- 67 Summary Offence Tickets (vs. 42 issued in Nov. 2021)
1 aggressive driving, 2 cell phone, 21 other MVA (e.g., no registration, no insurance, etc.), 43 speeding
- 98 Proactive Assignments (vs. 266 in Nov. 2021)
- 124 Cell Phone/Impaired/Seatbelt/Speeding Checkpoints/Radar Enforcement
- 124 Traffic Stops (vs. 111 in Nov. 2021)
- 4 Impaired Driving Charges (vs. 1 in Nov. 2021)
- 1 Impaired Driving Suspension (same as Nov. 2021)
- 21 Motor Vehicle Accidents (vs. 36 in Nov. 2021)
 - 2 of these accidents resulted in injuries.
- 0 Vehicle/Pedestrian/Cyclist Accidents (same as Nov. 2021)

Please Drive Safely!

SENIOR SNOW REMOVAL PROGRAM



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

program available for seniors (65+) and persons with disabilities to help ensure safe access to your home.

The 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**.



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

- reside in a single dwelling home which is owned or rented
- not exceed a total gross household income of \$32,000, and
- 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 [here](#).

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

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

IIHF WORLD JUNIOR ICE HOCKEY CHAMPIONSHIPS

Nova Scotia RCMP Cst. Dylan Bergmark practiced with Switzerland's World Junior Championships team in Truro. Cst. Bergmark, Millbrook, was volunteered to help the Swiss Juniors team for his on-ice capabilities AND because others felt he would "*represent the community extremely well.*" Photos below of Cst. Bergmark practicing with Switzerland's World Junior Championships team.



Photo Credits: Cop of Coffee



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BEWARE - SCAM TARGETING SENIORS



The RCMP/HRP Integrated Criminal Investigation Division is warning the public about numerous scams targeting seniors.

With these scams, victims are contacted by fraudsters pretending to be a relative in need of money; often, the story is that the family member has been arrested and requires bail. The call is then usually taken over by another person pretending to be in a position of authority, such as a police officer or a lawyer, instructing the victim to provide this bail. The fraudsters then send a 'bail bondsman' to the victim's address to collect the cash. **Police want to highlight that authorities in Canada do not solicit release of someone for money and do not come to your door for cash.**

Police are reminding the public that these fraudsters are very good at what they do and are believable. You can protect yourself by following the tips below:

- Fraudsters create a sense of urgency – slow things down, reach out to other relatives and review the situation together, contact authorities if need be.
- If you still believe the caller then contact the authority represented through their legitimate contact source - website or phonebook that you have located and not provided to you by the contactor.
- Attempt to contact the family member in question.
- Do not send money, gift cards, Bitcoin or anything else of value in “urgent situations.”
- Don't drop your guard because the number on your caller ID looks familiar or legitimate. Scammers can spoof telephone numbers and make it appear they are calling from a trusted source.

Anyone who thinks they could be a victim, knows someone who could be a victim, or has information on these incidents, is asked to contact police at 902-490- 5020. The scams can also be reported to the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre at 1-888-495-8501.

COMMUNITY HALLS / CENTRES



Carrolls Corner Community Centre,, 9 Milford Road, Carrolls Corner

District 1 is home to many Community Halls and Non-Profit Organizations. Check out their website or Facebook pages to find information



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on local events as well as opportunities to volunteer in your community. Here is a list of some of the great organizations in our district:

- [Elderbank Recreation Club](#)
- Lemmon Hill Sports Association [Facebook](#)
- [Upper Musquodoboit Nova Scotia Nunavut Command](#)
- [Upper Musquodoboit Community Hall](#)
- Upper Musquodoboit Fellowship Centre (902)568-2536
- [Musquodoboit Valley Bicentennial Theatre](#)
- [Musquodoboit Valley Family Resource Centre](#)
- [Musquodoboit Valley Food Bank](#)
- [Carrolls Corner Community Center](#)
- [Meaghers Grant Community Hall](#)
- [Gordon Snow Community Centre](#)
- [Wellington Fletchers Lake Station House](#)
- [Grand Lake Oakfield Community Centre](#)
- [Waverley Heritage Museum](#)
- [Waverley Legion Dieppe Branch 90](#)
- [LWF Community Hall](#)
- [Windsor Junction Community Centre](#)
- [Helping Hands Families Helping Families](#)
- [Barefoot Farmers Association](#)

For those I have missed this time around please reach out let me know and I will add to the list!

IN THE COMMUNITY

And the generosity continues.....drove to Chaswood with toys, clothes, games for kids on the way to [Helping Hands: Families Helping Families Society](#) from the Fall River Lions Christmas Express. Thanks again to communities helping communities throughout District 1.



We also delivered 16 turkeys, warm sweaters and kids skates to [Helping Hands: Families](#)



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Helping Families Society in Chaswood. Many thanks to our anonymous community partner.



Christmas Express deliveries of fresh fruit/vegetables!



Thank you to the [Fall River & Riverlake District Lions Club](#) Christmas Express for sending food donations to the Middle Musquodoboit Valley Food Bank and financially supporting them with a cheque for \$3,000. Christmas looked much better for some very appreciative families.



Pictured above is one of our delivery volunteers [Nick Yeomans, EXIT Metro](#), with myself and [Betty Tilley](#) with the Food Bank.

Thank you to both these volunteer groups for all you do all year long to make life easier for those who need it most.



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I was so happy to see the new sound board and, a few interesting pieces of sound equipment, at the Musquodoboit Valley Bicentennial Theatre funded by District 1 District Capital Funds and HRM Community Grants funding.

Here I am in photo below with Erin Taylor, Chair of the Board, Norm Arsenault, Board Member, and sound board controller extraordinaire Mike Miller!



Here I am with William Brewer, Halifax Town Crier!



Thank you carpenters for putting finishing touches on the storage shed in Chaswood for [Helping Hands: Families Helping](#)

[Families Society](#). Thank you so much to Lindsay Construction!



Charlie and I with Tom Bedell, Q104, for the Firefighters Toy Drive 2022.



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WELCOME CATHIE O'TOOLE - NEWLY APPOINTED CAO



Congratulations Cathie O'Toole on being the first ever female Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) for the Halifax Regional Municipality! Also proud to say, she is a District 1 resident.

Halifax Regional Council has appointed Cathie O'Toole as the new CAO of the Halifax Regional Municipality. Ms. O'Toole assumes her responsibilities as CAO on January 1st, 2023, with her first day in the office being on Tuesday, January 3rd.

"This is the right time and the right place for Cathie's inspiring, collaborative leadership," says Mayor Mike Savage. "Her dedication to public service, as well as a proven track record of effective financial and operational management and delivering results, will be invaluable to our amazing staff as we continue to embrace the many opportunities and challenges of our fast-growing municipality."

Ms. O'Toole brings with her more than three decades of leadership and public sector experience – most recently as the General Manager of Halifax Water, a role she has held

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since 2019. From 2011-2019 she was the Director of Corporate Services/CFO for the municipally-owned water utility. Prior to joining Halifax Water, she worked with the Halifax Regional Municipality for 10 years in a variety of roles including Director of Finance/CFO and Director of Infrastructure and Asset Management.

In addition to holding a Master of Business Administration from Laurentian University and a Bachelor of Arts from Dalhousie University, Ms. O'Toole is a Chartered Professional Accountant and has been recognized as a Fellow of the Chartered Professional Accountants (FCPA) of Nova Scotia.

"I want to thank Mayor Savage and the selection committee for the opportunity to take on this new challenge," says Cathie O'Toole. "It's a true privilege to work with the extraordinary team of dedicated professionals at the municipality. I look forward to building upon the progress that's been achieved and collaborating with colleagues and partners in the shared commitment to provide exceptional service to all our residents."

As the senior administrator for the municipality, the CAO oversees a municipal budget of over \$1 billion and a team of approximately 5,000 employees.

Mayor Savage and seven regional councillors participated in the extensive candidate search process with executive recruitment services support from Knightsbridge Robertson Surette.



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PROVINCIAL & FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVES

The following are the [provincial](#) Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs) and [federal](#) Members of Parliament (MPs) representatives for [municipal district 1](#).

Provincial MLAs:



MLA Larry Harrison
Colchester-
Musquodoboit Valley
Constituency office:
87 Main Street West
PO Box 219
Stewiacke, NS B0N 2J0
Phone: 902-639-1010

Fax: 902-639-2598

Email: larryharrisonmla@gmail.com



MLA Brian Wong
Waverley-Fall River-
Beaver Bank
Constituency Office:
1265 Fall River Road
Suite 101
Fall River, NS B2T 1E6
Phone: 902-576-3411

Email: brianwongmla@gmail.com

Federal MPs:



MP Sean Fraser
[Central Nova](#)
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6
Phone: 613-992-6022
Fax: 613-992-2337
Email:
sean.fraser@parl.gc.ca



MP Darrell Samson
Sackville-Preston-
Chezzetcook
Constituency Office:
2900 Highway 2
Suite 2nd Floor
Fall River, NS B2T
1W4
Phone: 902-861-2311
Fax: 902-861-4620

Email: darrell.samson@parl.gc.ca



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COUNCILLOR DEAGLE GAMMON



COUNCILLOR CATHY DEAGLE GAMMON
 DISTRICT 1
 Fall River - Waverley - Musquodoboit Valley
 Phone: 902.717.2718
 Cathy.deaglegammon@halifax.ca

Halifax Regional Municipality
 PO Box 1749
 Halifax, NS B3J 3A5

HALIFAX halifax.ca 311

distribution list, if you wish to be added to the list, please contact my Council Constituency Coordinator at: 902-490-1562 or email:

Chris.Newson@halifax.ca.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



I currently serve on Regional Council, North West Community Council (Chair 2023) and the following boards and committees:

- Accessibility Advisory Committee
- Appeals Standing Committee
- Audit and Finance Committee (Vice Chair)
- Environment and Sustainability Committee
- Executive Standing Committee (newly appointed December 2022)
- Grants Committee (Chair)
- Halifax Regional Water Commission
- Halifax Partnership (newly appointed November 2022)
- North West Planning Advisory Committee
- Community Committees:
 - Halifax International Airport Authority
 - Goffs Quarry Community Liaison
 - Aerotech Community Liaison Community Committee

The Halifax Regional Municipality honours and recognizes the importance of the Indigenous people (First Nation, Métis, and Inuit) and their cultural contributions to the tapestry of our region. The municipality recognizes the significant contributions of the Indigenous people and actively work together towards reconciliation and ensuring that our Indigenous members continue to enrich the fabric of the Halifax region.

Land Acknowledgement

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 & Friendship Treaties signed in this Territory and recognizes that we are all Treaty People.

E-NEWSLETTER/SUBSCRIBE

My monthly e-newsletters are available on my municipal [website](#). I also maintain a mailing

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