



COUNCILLOR TRISH PURDY
DISTRICT 4 ONLINE NEWS
COLE HARBOUR - WESTPHAL - LAKE LOON - CHERRY BROOK

DEAR RESIDENTS,

Happy January District 4!

Happy New Year, everyone! I hope you all had a wonderful holiday filled with special time with family and friends. I also hope you were able to get some much-needed rest.

As we head into the new year, we are also heading into the cold and dark days of winter. This time of year can be challenging for many, so I encourage you to check in on your loved ones and look after yourselves as well.

With a new year comes new budget debates. Council's budget deliberations have begun and will continue until Spring 2023. You can find the schedule and more information on the process below in this newsletter.

I hope you will join me at one of my upcoming drop-in sessions this month! I am always happy to chat and meet you in-person. Drop-in dates can be found on page two of this newsletter.

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,

Trish Purdy





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SQUARE ROOTS: JANUARY 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 January are the 13th and 27th. Click [here](#) to sign up and find out more.

COUNCILLOR DROP IN

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

Tim Hortons, Forest Hills Parkway
Friday January 13th, 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Selby’s Bunker, Cole Harbour Road
Thursday January 19th, 5:00-6:00 p.m.

January 2023

HRM WELCOMES NEW CAO

I am pleased to welcome Cathie O’Toole as the new Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) of the Halifax Regional Municipality. Ms. O’Toole assumed her responsibilities as CAO on January 1st, 2023, with her first day in the office on Tuesday, January 3rd, 2023.

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 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. For full details, visit our [website](#).

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WINTER 2023 REC REGISTRATION



Registration is open for Rec programs happening this winter! This includes dryland programs, along with skating and aquatics! Program details are available [here](#).

Issues with registration? Questions can be directed to your local recreation centre or call (902) 490-6666.

Did you know?

✓ The [Recreation Funding Access Program](#) provides discounted recreation opportunities for children, youth and adults in financial need.

✓ Starting this month, the municipality's aquatics program will be transitioning from the Red Cross Swim Program to the Lifesaving Society's Swim Program. Residents can find more information on the transition [here](#).

January 2023

Impaired Driving Statistics

From Halifax Regional Police (Nov. 2022)

- In **November 2022**, 19 drivers were charged with impaired-related offences. 17 of these charges were alcohol-related, 2 were drug-related.
- 3 of these drivers - who provided breath samples - **were at least twice the legal limit.**
- 1 of the drivers **refused a breath sample** and was charged with the offence of refusal.
- Police received **9 calls in November** 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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RCMP Road Safety Stats

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

- 564 Calls for Service in Nov. 2022 - Down 25.5% from Nov. 2021
- 53 Summary Offence Tickets (vs. 76 issued in Nov. 2021)
25 other MVA (e.g., unregistered vehicle, invalid inspection sticker, etc.), 13 aggressive driving, 10 speeding, 5 cell phone
- 105 Proactive Assignments (vs. 263 in Nov. 2021)
- 19 Cell Phone/Impaired/Seatbelt/Speeding Checkpoints/Radar Enforcement
- 114 Traffic Stops (vs. 191 in Nov. 2021)
- 3 Impaired Driving Charges (vs. 4 in Nov. 2021)
- 3 Impaired Driving Suspensions (vs. 2 in Nov. 2021)
- 24 Motor Vehicle Accidents (vs. 21 in Nov. 2021)
 - 1 of these accidents resulted in injuries
- 0 Vehicle/Pedestrian/Cyclist Accidents (same as Nov. 2021)

Please Drive Safely!



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2023/24 BUDGET & BUSINESS PLANNING FOR HRM

The municipality's 2023/24 Budget and Business Planning process has now started and will continue into the spring. 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.

Visit our [website](#) to learn more about the budget process, FAQs, 2021-25 HRM Strategic Priorities Plan and more.

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:

Business Unit	Budget Committee Date/(Contingency Date)
CAO Auditor General Finance and Asset Management Legal and Legislative Services	Friday, January 27 th (Wednesday, February 8 th)
Halifax Regional Police RCMP (Department of Justice)	Wednesday, February 1 st (Friday, February 3 rd)
Information Technology Human Resources & Corporate Communications Property, Fleet & Environment	Wednesday, February 8 th (Friday, February 10 th)
Halifax Public Libraries	Friday, February 10 th
Public Works	Tuesday, February 14 th (Wednesday, February 15 th)
Planning and Development Parks and Recreation	Friday, February 17 th (Wednesday, February 22 nd)
Halifax Transit Halifax Regional Fire and Emergency	Friday, February 24 th (Wednesday, March 1 st)
Halifax Regional Police RCMP (Department of Justice) Fiscal and Consolidated Accounts	Friday, March 3 rd (Wednesday, March 8 th)
Budget Adjustment List	Wednesday, March 29 th (Friday, March 31 st)



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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.

January 2023

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

- January 10th
- January 24th

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.

COLE HARBOUR AND AREA BUSINESS ASSOCIATION: BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT INFORMATION SESSION

The Cole Harbour and Area Business Association (CHABA) is considering implementing a Business Improvement District (BID) for the Cole Harbour business area to encourage growth and draw consumers to the Cole Harbour area.

There will be an information session on **Tuesday January 31st at 7:00 p.m. at the Cole Harbour Fire Hall, 1150 Cole Harbour Road.**

Scott Sheffield, Community Developer responsible for BIDs will explain the process of becoming a BID and what it means. There will also be a question-and-answer period. This meeting is open to the public to those who are interested. If you are interested in receiving more information on this proposal, please email coleharbourbusiness@gmail.com.





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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 Thursday January 12th. 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](#).