



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

DEAR RESIDENTS,

Happy February District 4!

Winter is now in full swing and Shubenacadie Sam did not see his shadow, so it appears we are in for another six weeks of winter.

I encourage you to check out and participate in the many wonderful events planned to celebrate African Heritage month as well as Nova Scotia Heritage Day. More information can be found below.

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 three of this newsletter.

While Council is in the midst of budget discussions, I would like to take this opportunity to remind and encourage everyone to participate. There is an opportunity for public participation at the start of every budget discussion.

As always, please feel free to reach out to me with your municipal questions or concerns. I love to hear from you.

Sincerely,

Trish Purdy





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FEBRUARY IS AFRICAN HERITAGE MONTH



February marks African Heritage Month, a time to celebrate the legacy, achievements and contributions of African Nova Scotians – past, present and future.

The 2023 provincial theme, *Seas of Struggle – African Peoples from Shore to Shore*, outlines the struggles People of African Descent faced from the shores of Africa to the shores of Nova Scotia. Recognizing that the one thing that has remained constant in our history is the Atlantic Ocean. In the long-standing history of People of African Descent in the development of Canada, the sea has played a vital role. This theme explores the struggle and adversity that was overcome. It also examines the effects of slavery and seafaring on African Nova Scotians.

The theme also aligns with the United Nations' International Decade for People of African Descent (DPAD) 2015-2024. The goal of DPAD is to strengthen global cooperation in support of People of African Descent, increase awareness and the passage towards presence in all aspects of society.

February 2023

Celebrate the rich culture of people of African descent by participating in this year's events and activities:

City Hall Lit in Pan-African Colours

February 18-21 | February 23-28

City Hall will be illuminated in black, green, red and yellow in honour of African Heritage Month.

Delightful Downtown Light Show

Throughout February, the Downtown Halifax Business Commission will project light displays on the former Halifax Memorial Library Building at Grafton Park in celebration of African Heritage Month.

Pan-African Flag to be displayed across the region

Throughout February, the Pan-African flag will be displayed on all Halifax Transit ferries and at both transit garages in honour of African Heritage Month.

Virtual Museum Tours

[Take an immersive virtual tour](#) of popular heritage and cultural sites, including the Africville Museum and the Black Cultural Centre.





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SQUARE ROOTS: FEBRUARY 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 February are the 10th and 24th. 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
Thursday, February 23rd 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Selby’s Bunker, Cole Harbour Road
Saturday, February 25 11:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.

February 2023

CONSIDER STARTING A COMMUNITY GARDEN THIS SUMMER

Thinking of starting a community garden? Many community gardens in Halifax are operated by residents on land owned by the municipal government.

Applications for spring 2023 are due by March 30th. To review HRM’s application form and handbook, visit our [website](#).

You’ll also find a full list of existing community gardens if you’re thinking of joining one. Let’s get growing!



ICE THICKNESS TO SAFELY ENJOY WINTER ACTIVITIES

15 CM	20 CM	25 CM
WALKING OR SKATING ALONE	SKATING AS A GROUP OR PLAYING HOCKEY	SNOWMOBILING OR DRIVING AN ATV



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NOVA SCOTIA HERITAGE DAY HONOURS ELDER RITA JOE



Her words inspired the country, leading her to eventually receive the Order of Canada in 1989, become a member of the Queens Privy Council in 1992, and receive Honorary Doctorates from Mount Saint Vincent University and the University College of Cape Breton. She went on to receive an Aboriginal Achievement Award and was named Poet Laureate of the Mi'kmaq.

In the prologue to her memoir, Rita Joe wrote: "My greatest wish is that there will be more writing from my people, and that our children will read it. I have said again and again that our history would be different if it had been expressed by us.

- Learn more about Elder Rita Joe [here](#).
- Find out about the [Heritage Day Celebrations](#) planned for 2023
- Access Heritage Day Resources in Honour of Elder Rita Joe [here](#).

Celebrated the third Monday in February each year, Nova Scotia Heritage Day is an opportunity to honour the remarkable people, places and events that have contributed to this province's unique heritage and storied past. Heritage Day 2023 is on February 20th and is a holiday for many workplaces.

This year's Heritage Day Honouree is Elder Rita (Bernard) Joe. Elder Rita, a member of the We'koqma'q Mi'kmaq Community and published author, was instrumental in paving the way for other Mi'kmaq authors. Rita Joe endured hardships from attending the Indian Residential School in Shubenacadie that eventually led her to begin writing to share her experiences and celebrate Mi'kmaq culture with a focus on language.

February 2023

HER HEART MATTERS
WEAR RED CANADA - FEB 13

WEAR RED CANADA

WEARREDCANADA.CA
#WearRedCanada
#HerHeartMatters
@CWHHAlliance

JOIN US! | FEBRUARY 13



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AFRICAN DESCENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT

The Halifax Regional Municipality has extended recruitment for adult and youth volunteers to join the new African Descent Advisory Committee. Applications are available [here](#) and will now be accepted until Tuesday, February 28, 2023 at 11:59 p.m.

The African Descent Advisory Committee will advise Regional Council, through the Executive Standing Committee, on the impact of municipal policies, programs and services for People of African Descent. The formation of this Committee aligns with the municipality's [Anti-Black Racism Framework](#).

Detailed information on the Committee's objectives, member information and terms of reference can be found in [Administrative Order 2021-004-GOV – Respecting the African Descent Advisory Committee in the Halifax Regional Municipality](#).

For more information or to apply, click [here](#). For questions about the Public Appointment Policy, application process, concerns about computer or internet access or to request another accommodation to the recruitment process, please contact serve@halifax.ca or call 902-490-4210.



Councillors' Hendsbee, Kent, Purdy, Mancini and Deputy Mayor Austin present a \$7,000 District Capital cheque to members of Scouts Canada. The money will be going towards building an accessible campsite for Camp Harris

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WORK WITH HRM'S RECREATION TEAM THIS SUMMER!

Are you a student or young adult looking for a summer job that offers more than minimum wage? Check out exciting opportunities with HRM's recreation team this summer!



There are a variety of positions available in recreation programming, aquatics and inclusion support. These fun summer jobs pay \$16.30 to \$19.30 per hour. Visit our [website](#) for a full list of postings until April 16th.



February 2023

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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 REMAINING SCHEDULE OF BUDGET PRESENTATIONS FOR 2023/24:

Business Unit	Budget Committee Date/(Contingency Date)
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)

Budget and Business Plan





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2023 COMMUNITY GRANTS: APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN

Halifax Regional Municipality's Community Grants Program is currently accepting applications for the 2023 program. This program provides annual cash grants to registered non-profit organizations and charities located throughout the Halifax region. There are two types of grants:

Applications are now **open** for the **Community Grants Program**.
This program provides cash grants to registered non-profit organizations and charities.

HALIFAX

- a project grant of up to \$5,000 OR
- a capital grant of up to \$25,000.

The application deadline is March 31, 2023. Applicants should review the Program Guidebook prior to applying for a grant. Application forms and program guidebooks are now available. You can access them in several places:

- ☑ [Online](#)
- ☑ At an HRM Customer Service Centre:
Alderney Gate, 40 Alderney Drive, - Dartmouth, 1st floor
Musquodoboit Harbour Strip Mall, Corner of Hwy #7 & East Petpeswick Road
Bayers Road, 7071 Bayers Road, 2nd floor
- ☑ By contacting [311](tel:311)
- ☑ Or by emailing nonprofitgrants@halifax.ca

For further information, please email nonprofitgrants@halifax.ca or call 902.490.7310.

February 2023

HEATING ASSISTANCE REBATE PROGRAM

The Province of Nova Scotia's Heating Assistance Rebate Program helps low-income Nova Scotians with the cost of home heating. Nova Scotians can receive \$1,000 if you qualify for the Heating Assistance Rebate Program.

To qualify for the rebate, you need to pay for your own home (residential) heat and have a household income of \$85,000 or less. You can apply until March 31st, 2023, and you don't need to apply for the rebate again if you already applied.

How do I apply?

- ✓ Click [here](#) to learn more about eligibility and apply online!
- ✓ If you cannot apply online, there is also a printable application available on the website above.
- ✓ Or, contact the Heating Assistance Rebate Program directly to request an application by mail:

Phone: 902-424-5200
Toll-free: 1-800-670-4357
Fax: 902-428-2164
Mailing address: PO Box 641, CRO, Halifax NS B3J 2T3





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UPCOMING REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETINGS



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

- February 21st

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.

HEMDCC NOW STREAMED ONLINE

As part of continued efforts to support open and accessible meetings, webcasts will now be available from the Harbour East – Marine Drive Community Council Chamber (60 Alderney Drive, Dartmouth), thanks to some recent technical upgrades. This means that all Harbour East Marine Drive Community Council (HEMDCC) meetings that take place at that location will be streamed online for residents to watch. This follows a soft launch webcast pilot that occurred at the HEMDCC meeting on January 12th. This pilot was a success and the [video from this meeting can be found here](#).

Where to watch:

The HEMDCC webcast will be live on HRM's [YouTube channel](#) and [agenda postings](#). Stay tuned for the video link to be shared closer to the next HEMDCC meeting, scheduled for March 2nd.

Other webcast opportunities:

Due to the ability to webcast in this room, this space will also be available to other meeting bodies. Other meetings may take place there in the future, and if they do, they may also be webcasted. For example, Regional Centre Community Council also uses this space. Community Councils that do not use this space will not have a webcast, aside from Halifax and West Community Council (meetings occur in Council Chambers, which also has the capacity to webcast).



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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](#).

RCMP Road Safety Stats

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

- 609 Calls for Service in Dec. 2022 - Down 24.3% from Dec. 2021**
- 50 Summary Offence Tickets (vs. 51 issued in Dec. 2021)**
1 cellphone, 6 speeding, 6 aggressive driving, 17 unregistered vehicle, 20 other MVA (e.g. no insurance, no license, plate not displayed, etc.)
- 174 Proactive Assignments (vs. 347 in Dec. 2021)**
- 21 Cell Phone/Impaired/Seatbelt/Speeding Checkpoints/Radar Enforcement**
- 114 Traffic Stops (vs. 164 in Dec. 2021)**
3 Impaired Driving Charges (vs. 2 in Dec. 2021)
1 Impaired Driving Suspension (same as Dec. 2021)
- 25 Motor Vehicle Accidents (vs. 14 in Dec. 2021)**
• 1 of these accidents resulted in injuries
- 0 Vehicle/Pedestrian/Cyclist Accidents (vs. 1 in Dec. 2021)**

Please Drive Safely!