



**COUNCILLOR KATHRYN MORSE**  
DISTRICT 10 ONLINE NEWS  
HALIFAX - BEDFORD BASIN WEST

## WELCOME NOVEMBER!

As November comes to a close, I'm excited to share some updates and highlights in our latest newsletter. There's plenty happening in our community, so let's dive in!

## HALIFAX TRANSIT SCHEDULE AND ROUTE CHANGES

The Halifax Regional Municipality is announcing upcoming Halifax Transit service changes as part of the [Moving Forward Together Plan](#). This plan aims to align the transit network more effectively with the evolving needs of residents. Here are some routes that's changing:

**Route 28 Bayers Lake:** Adjustments will be made to include service to the new Bayers Lake Community Outpatient Centre on Susie Lake Crescent. Please be aware that Julius Boulevard will be accessible only to buses from November 20 onwards until further notice.

**22 Routes:** Minor schedule adjustments will enhance service quality and reliability.

**26 Routes:** 55 trips will be reinstated, with 12 of these routes returning to full service.

For detailed route descriptions and more information, visit our [website](#) you can also stay updated by following [@hfxtransit](#) on X for the latest information.

## CGC SWIM ACADEMY MASTER'S SWIM MEET

The Canada Games Centre Swim Academy is set to host the Masters Swim Meet on November 26, from 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. at the Aquatics Centre. Participants can find more details on Swim Nova Scotia's [website](#). Best of luck to all swimmers!





### INDIGENOUS DISABILITY AWARENESS MONTH



November is Indigenous Disability Awareness Month in Canada, honoring the strength and challenges faced by Indigenous individuals with disabilities. It's a time to focus on inclusivity, awareness, and support for a community often experiencing disparities in healthcare and education. Understanding the unique intersection of Indigenous identity and disabilities is crucial for providing culturally sensitive support. This month encourages reflection, education, and support for Indigenous voices and experiences. Visit our [website](#) to learn more.

### SALTWIRE HOLIDAY PARADE OF LIGHTS

Join in the festive cheer at the SaltWire Holiday Parade of Lights on Saturday, November 18!

It's a wonderful way to kick off the holiday season. This year, the parade has a new route, starting at the Cogswell Street roundabout near the Emera Oval at 6 p.m. The joyful procession will wind its way through Spring Garden Road before turning onto Barrington Street, ending at George Street.

Please note that road closures start at 3:30 p.m., so plan accordingly if you're driving that day. Your vehicle can be parked along the route, but remember, they'll need to be moved before the parade begins to keep the route clear. More details can be found on their [website](#).

### COMBAT RADON, REDUCE LUNG CANCER RISK!

As November marks Radon Action Month, an important time to address radon, the second leading cause of lung cancer. It's crucial to safeguard your health by testing your homes for radon. High levels of radon indoors can significantly increase the risk of developing lung cancer.

You can reach out to MLA Patricia Arab's office who are collaborating with LungNSPEI to provide short-term radon detectors to residents in Fairview Clayton Park. To borrow a detector and ensure your home's safety, simply reach out to their office at [info@patriciaarab.ca](mailto:info@patriciaarab.ca). For more information on this program click [here](#).

### CRAFT AND BAKE SALE IN ROCKINGHAM

**Christmas Craft Fair**

St. Peter's Anglican Church Birch Cove  
3 Dakin Drive, Halifax  
Corner of the Bedford Highway &  
Kearney Lake Road

**Saturday, November 18, 2023**  
9:00am-2:00pm

*Beautiful quality handmade goods & baking!*

Admission:  
Adults \$3.00  
Children Free

**DOOR PRIZES!**

Don't miss this opportunity to indulge in delightful homemade treats and discover unique crafts. It's a day filled with treasures and delicious goodies for all!





### AFFORDABLE PRODUCE & MEAL KITS BACK IN TOWN!

Join the Square Roots Fairview/Clayton Park Market on Saturday, November 18 at The Salvation Army Halifax West Community Church located at 50 Gesner Street from 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. They offer low-cost fresh produce bundles priced at pay-what-you-can, with a suggested minimum of \$10 to support our local farmers. Additionally, there will be a Red Lentil Curry meal kit available for a minimum of \$5. To secure your order, please send payment via e-transfer to [squarerootsfairviewclaytonpark@gmail.com](mailto:squarerootsfairviewclaytonpark@gmail.com) or pay in cash on-site.

You can reserve your orders by clicking:

- [Produce Bundle Request](#)
- [Red Lentil Curry meal kit](#)

Don't forget to spread the word!

### MAINLAND NORTH JEM MEETING

The Mainland North Joint Emergency Management (JEM) team is welcoming new members! This community-oriented group focuses on disaster preparedness and response. From handling extreme weather to providing support during crises, JEM teams offer vital aid to neighborhoods like Fairmount, Fairview, Mount Royale, Clayton Park West, Bayers Lake Business Park, Rockingham, and parts of Bedford South.

They're meeting on November 22 at 6:30 p.m. at the Canada Games Centre. If you're interested in being prepared and helping your community during emergencies, this could be a great opportunity for you!

### REMEMBRANCE DAY



More than 150 participated in the Fairview Legion's Remembrance Day ceremony this year. The Burton Ettinger Elementary School choir added a nice touch, as did the young cadet who recited "In Flanders Fields". During the COVID years, the crowd was much smaller so it was good to see numbers returning.

### MUSICAL POP-UP PERFORMANCE WITH DEBUT ATLANTIC

On November 23, catch a captivating free musical performance by marimba player Krystina Marcoux and cellist Juan Sebastian Delgado from 12:45 to 1:15 p.m. at the Canada Games Centre. The dynamic Montreal duo, Stick&Bow, blends humor and storytelling with their unique cello and marimba fusion.

### EVENT GRANT APPLICATIONS DUE

Are you looking for financial support for your upcoming event? The municipality's Events division is currently accepting applications for two funding programs: the Marketing Levy Special Events Reserve (MLSER) Grants and the Regional Special Events Grants Program. Application deadline is November 30<sup>th</sup>. Apply now and give your event the boots it needs. To explore available grants and start your application, visit: [MLSER Grants and Regional Special Events](#).



### TAX RELIEF FOR NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS PROGRAM

Fantastic news! The Tax Relief for Non-Profit Organizations Program is now open for the 2024-2025 term. If you're involved with a non-profit or considering adding another property under this program, the deadline for applications is approaching on November 30.

Access the [application form](#) swiftly online or simply drop an email request at [non-profittax@halifax.ca](mailto:non-profittax@halifax.ca).

This initiative is a testament to the invaluable role non-profits play in our community. Seize this opportunity to make a positive impact!

### NEW HFXGO APP



I am delighted to share exciting news about HFXGO, the new mobile transit payment app! Purchase and use tickets hassle-free

from your smartphone. You can download for free on the App Store or Google Play.

Once downloaded, you can purchase your desired ticket or pass, activate it, and show it to the Transit Operator or ferry security staff just prior to boarding. Don't worry, passengers can still purchase paper tickets and passes. For more information about the app please visit our [website](#).

### HEATING ASSISTANCE REBATE PROGRAM

I understand the challenges many of us face during the colder months, especially when it comes to managing home heating expenses. That's why I want to highlight the Heating Assistance Rebate Program, which aims to support low- and moderate-income households. This program offers rebates of \$600 for each household to help alleviate the burden of heating costs. Don't forget, the application deadline for this program is March 31, 2024.

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Seniors can also benefit from the [Seniors Care Grant](#), specifically aiding them with heating costs during the colder months. The process takes about 8 weeks, and updates on the application status are available online. Spread the word and ensure everyone has a warm and comfortable winter ahead! Here is how to [start](#).

### WINTER GREEN CART TIPS

Our Solid Waste Resources team are sharing tips for managing green carts during winter:

- Line the bottom of the green cart with newspaper or 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 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 our [website](#).



### WINTER ROAD SAFETY TIPS

Here are some essential winter road safety tips to keep in mind:

- **Prioritize vehicle readiness:** Before winter sets in, make sure your vehicle is winter-ready. Check your tires, windshield wipers, lights, brakes, and other crucial components.
- **Stay informed:** Keep yourself updated with weather forecasts and road conditions before heading out.
- **Avoid driving during storms:** If possible, it's safer to stay home during severe weather conditions and wait until road conditions improve.
- **Clear your vehicle:** Remove all snow and ice from your vehicle before every trip. Ensure all windows and mirrors are free from frost and fog.
- **Drive cautiously:** Drive alert, well-rested, and sober. Adjust your speed to match the road conditions, leave extra space between vehicles, and avoid sudden acceleration or braking.
- **Stay in control:** Avoid abrupt turns or stops to prevent losing control and skidding. Don't use cruise control on slippery surfaces like ice and snow.
- **Increase visibility:** Turn on your vehicle's lights for better visibility to other drivers, pedestrians, and cyclists.
- **Stay focused:** Avoid distractions while driving. Keep your hands on the wheel and eyes on the road.
- **Watch out for pedestrians:** Be mindful that pedestrians may be walking on the roadway due to snow-covered or icy sidewalks.
- **Beware of icy patches:** Be cautious of icy areas, especially on bridges, overpasses, and shaded spots.
- **Road salt effectiveness:** Remember, road salt may not be as effective below -10 degrees

Celsius, so even above-zero temperatures don't guarantee safe road conditions.

Let's prioritize safety on the roads as we embrace the winter season. Stay safe!

### VULNERABLE PERSONS REGISTRY



The Halifax Regional Municipality introduced the Voluntary Vulnerable Persons Registry (VVPR) to aid residents who might need extra assistance during emergencies like power outages or severe weather.

This registry helps prioritize responses by providing crucial information to first responders and Emergency Management personnel. Applications are open to those seeking registration to be part of the VVPR or their legal representatives.

It's for individuals facing mobility, vision, or hearing impairment, developmental or cognitive disabilities, mental health conditions, or those reliant on electricity for life-sustaining equipment. When activated, the program sends warnings via hfxALERT, followed by potential phone calls or door-to-door checks by Emergency Management staff. Check-in communications are also provided post-event. To learn more, visit the municipality's [website](#).



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HALIFAX - BEDFORD BASIN WEST

## SNOW REMOVAL PROGRAM FOR SENIORS AND PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

As we brace for the winter season ahead, it's crucial to ensure safe accessibility around our homes, especially for seniors and those with disabilities. That's why I wanted to share details about the Senior Snow Removal program, An initiative to help maintain safe pathways during snowy weather. Partnered with the Halifax Regional Municipality, the YMCA coordinates this program to clear front and back steps, walkways, ramps, and access to fuel tanks. Driveways are not covered.

Eligibility includes residing in a single dwelling, meeting income criteria, and not being a landlord. Spaces are limited and work on a first-come, first-serve basis.

For further details please click [here](#) or call 902-483-3678 for inquiries.

## VOLUNTEER AWARDS 2024

I'm truly excited to share that nominations are now open for the 2024 Volunteer Awards. These awards recognize outstanding individuals and groups shaping our community. Whether they mentor, support local causes, or contribute to community programs, your nomination can honour those making a difference. Nominations are accepted in three categories: adult, youth (ages 13-19), and community group.

Learn more about criteria and submit your nominations online. Don't forget—the nomination deadline is January 11, 2024. Successful nominees will be notified in March and invited to the prestigious Volunteer Award Ceremony on April 17, 2024, during National Volunteer Week. Join us in celebrating the exceptional efforts of our local heroes! Visit our [website](#) for more information.

July 2023

## SERVE ON MUNICIPAL BOARDS AND COMMITTEES!

**Volunteer to serve on a municipal board, committee or commission.**

**Deadline:**  
November 30, 2023 | 11:59pm

Join us and be part of the decision-making process in Halifax! The Halifax Regional

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Municipality is actively seeking volunteers to serve on various municipal boards, committees, and commissions.

As a member, you'll have a crucial role in providing recommendations to decision-makers. These groups consist of councillors, residents, and industry representatives.

Applications are open until Thursday, November 30. Before applying, I encourage applicants to review the roles and responsibilities of each board or committee. Our goal is to ensure diverse representation, welcoming individuals from various backgrounds, including African Nova Scotians, women, persons with disabilities, Indigenous persons, and members of the 2SLGBTQ+ community.

For more information on how to apply, please visit our [website](#) or call us at 902-490-4210.

Let's work together to shape the future of our community! Your contribution matters. Apply now and make a difference!





### NEW PEDESTRIAN SAFETY FEATURES IN DISTRICT 10



It's great to see two new RRFBs installed in the district recently. RRFBs are Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons. They have bright LED lights that flash on and off when pedestrians push a button. The flashing lights grab the attention of drivers and make anyone in the crosswalk more visible.

One of the new RRFBs is at Ford and Main Avenue, next to a seniors' home and busy transit stop. The other is on Clayton Park Drive, next to Duc d'Anville Elementary. HRM traffic safety staff tell me RRFBs have been found to increase vehicle yielding rates at crosswalks by as much as 96%.

For budget reasons, RRFBs can't be installed everywhere. Locations are prioritized based on volume of traffic, speed of traffic, and other criteria developed by the Transportation Association of Canada. RRFBs are not installed where there are existing Stop signs.



July 2023

### CALL 311 - YOUR GATEWAY TO MUNICIPAL SERVICES AND INFORMATION

I often receive inquiries regarding street maintenance requests. The most effective way to initiate the process for an operational matter is to submit a service request through our call centre. Beyond merely a phone number, 311 serves as a direct gateway to crucial municipal services and information. Offering three service center locations and contact options such as phone, mail, and email ([contactus@311.halifax.ca](mailto:contactus@311.halifax.ca)), accessing vital services is now more convenient than ever.

When you submit a service request, it will go directly to the department who can assess and create a work order for repair. Keep your service request number and reach out to us if you have any questions and we would be happy to follow up!

### FEWER FATALITIES SINCE 2018

Since the implementation of the Strategic Road Safety Framework in 2018, there has been a noticeable reduction in collisions and fatalities in HRM. In 2018, there were 6057 collisions causing 18 fatalities and 750 injuries. In 2022, the number decreased to 5254 collisions, with 11 fatalities and 775 injuries, signifying about 800 fewer collisions overall.

The framework has incorporated various safety measures, such as RRFBs, speed humps, digital speed display signs, and infrastructure enhancements at key intersections. This strategy aligns with the globally recognized Vision Zero approach, focusing on minimizing traffic-related injuries and deaths.

Regional Council will soon approve the next 5-year Road Safety Framework, emphasizing evidence-based interventions at critical locations. For detailed insights, you can review the 2023 [report](#).



### THE HOUSING ACCELERATOR FUND



Here is an update about the Housing Accelerator Fund, a new federal program, offering up to \$4 billion to local

authorities for housing development.

Halifax applied for this fund and provided approval for various initiatives in order to qualify. These include height increases in residential zones, density boosts near universities, reduced parking requirements, and more. Although some requests were adjusted, the application was approved, targeting completion within two to three years. The municipality is seeking approximately \$79.3 million from this program. Details of the action plan can be found in the original [report](#) to Council.

### RECENT CHANGES AND PROGRESS IN AFFORDABLE HOUSING INITIATIVES

In a recent session on November 14, the Regional Council introduced crucial advancements to enhance affordable housing across the municipality. Key decisions involved amendments to two administrative orders, enabling funds from the Interim Density Bonus Program to support affordable housing initiatives in suburban areas, expanding partnerships between private businesses and Non-Profit Organizations (NPOs), and allocating \$200,000 from the Housing Accelerator Fund for suburban and rural housing projects in the 2023/2024 grant year. Additionally, a review of the Affordable Housing Grant Program is set for the 2024/25 grant year. For further details, access the full staff report [here](#).

### INTRODUCING SAFE SCHOOL STREETS ROAD CLOSURE PILOT PROGRAM: ENHANCING SAFETY NEAR SCHOOLS

The municipality is set to launch a Safe School Streets road closure pilot program for two schools, aimed at enhancing safety and creating vibrant, pedestrian-friendly spaces near educational institutions. These closures temporarily limit vehicle access, allowing for activities like walking, biking, and socializing, prioritizing the well-being of residents, especially children.

This program aligns with HRM's transportation policies, the initiative focuses on active transportation, safety, and pedestrian access, in line with Road Safety and Vision Zero strategies. The pilot will run for two years, fostering a safer and more engaging environment for school communities.

Residents can explore the full [staff report](#) for further details on the program's requirements and implementation.

### POLICE BUDGET

On November 22 at 4 p.m. the Halifax Board of Police Commissioners is hosting an in-person and virtual public consultation regarding the proposed 2024-2025 police budget at the HEMDCC Meeting Space, Main Floor Alderney Landing, 60 Alderney Drive, Dartmouth.

The department's budget request involves an increase in staff, including 21 sworn officers. The public is encouraged to participate in the consultation to provide input on the proposed changes. For further details and to sign up to speak, visit the Police Commission's [website](#).





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HALIFAX - BEDFORD BASIN WEST

## SWEARING-IN OF POLICE SERVICE ANIMALS, AND CELEBRATING THE RETIREMENT OF POLICE SERVICE DOG CASEY



Heartwarming news from the Halifax Regional Police! The Halifax Regional Police recently welcomed new members to their team and celebrated the distinguished career of one of their K-9 Unit members. The induction ceremony marked the official swearing-in of Police Horse Jewelz, an 8-year-old Percheron Thoroughbred gelding known for his gentle demeanor and expertise in navigating traffic. Additionally, Police Service Dogs Cain and Kron joined the force, each demonstrating proficiency in tracking, evidence searching, and maintaining public safety.

On this occasion, the department bid farewell to Police Service Dog Casey, who retired after a remarkable seven-year career. Casey, known for her successful tracking missions and retrieving crucial evidence, will enjoy her days as a family pet with Cst. Malcolm. Congratulations on a remarkable career, Casey!



## GETTING HEALTHIER TOGETHER

What do you believe our area needs most for improved health? Is it more affordable housing, better incomes, opportunities for active living, increased social engagement, or better access to food?

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The Community Health Boards value your input and invite you to participate in a survey to express your thoughts and priorities. Join in and help shape the future of health in our district with your voice.

Your feedback will contribute to shaping healthier and thriving communities. Take the [Survey](#) - Your Voice Matters!

## PERFORMING & VISUAL ARTS VENUES STUDY

The Halifax Regional Municipality is seeking public input for the Performing & Visual Arts Venues Study, conducted by Happy Cities on its behalf.

This study aims to understand professional art venues, address their challenges, and identify the needs of the local arts community. Feedback from venue users and Indigenous artists is being collected through two surveys: the [Public Survey](#) and the [Indigenous Residents Survey](#), available until December 15<sup>th</sup>.

Expected to conclude by June 2024, the study may lead to the creation of a Professional Arts Venues Plan, guiding the municipality's long-term strategy for investing in and supporting these venues.



# COUNCILLOR KATHRYN MORSE

HALIFAX - BEDFORD BASIN WEST

## PARTICIPATE IN COUNCIL MEETINGS

### VIRTUALLY!

I'm thrilled to share that starting November 14, we've launched a new way for you to participate in our in-person Council Chamber meetings—virtually!

Now, you have the option to join and speak at any Council Chamber meeting where public input is welcomed, including Budget Committee gatherings, through our virtual participation feature. This addition is alongside the live streaming of all meetings, accessible on the municipality's [YouTube channel](#).

To engage virtually, kindly register by 4:30 p.m. the business day before the meeting. For more details and to register, visit our [website](#). Don't miss this chance to engage virtually in our Council meetings!

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

### Monday, November 20

7:00pm

North West Community Council

### Tuesday, November 21

6:00pm

Halifax and West Community Council

6:30pm

Accessibility Advisory Committee - Town Hall

### Wednesday, November 22

3:00pm

Heritage Advisory Committee

4:00pm

Board of Police Commissioners

6:00pm

Cancelled - Regional Centre Community Council

### Thursday, November 23

1:00pm

Transportation Standing Committee

### Monday, November 27

10:00am

Executive Standing Committee

### Tuesday, November 28

10:00am

Budget Committee and Halifax Regional Council

### Wednesday, November 29

4:00pm

Board of Police Commissioners

### Thursday, November 30

10:00am

Appeals Standing Committee

If Required - Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee

### Monday, November 20

10:00am

Cancelled - Grants Committee

7:00pm

North West Community Council

### Tuesday, November 21

6:00pm

Halifax and West Community Council

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Budget Committee and Halifax Regional Council

### Wednesday, November 29



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HALIFAX - BEDFORD BASIN WEST

4:00pm

Board of Police Commissioners

**Thursday, November 30**

10:00am

Appeals Standing Committee

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**November 20**

[Transgender Day of Remembrance](#)

**November 20 – 26**

[Canada History Week](#)

**December 3**

International Day of Persons with Disabilities

**December 6**

National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women

**December 10**

Human Rights Day

## FEDERAL/PROVINCIAL REPRESENTATIVES IN DISTRICT 10

Lena Metlege Diab, Member of Parliament

District government office

401-3845 Joseph Howe Dr

Halifax, Nova Scotia

B3L 4H9 (902) 426-2217

Hon. Patricia Arab, MLA for Fairview-Clayton Park

District government office

3845 Joseph Howe Dr, Suite 203

(902) 329-8683

Rafah DiCostanzo, MLA for Clayton Park West

District government office

397 Bedford Hwy · Suite 201

(902) 443-8318

## E-NEWSLETTER/SUBSCRIBE

I send monthly e-newsletters to community members. If you'd like to keep up to date with my Councillor news, please get in touch with my Council Constituency Coordinator, Sarah Edjemudiare or email [sarahagaren.edjemudiare@halifax.ca](mailto:sarahagaren.edjemudiare@halifax.ca).

## Let's Connect

### Councillor Kathryn Morse

District 10 - Halifax - Bedford Basin West  
PO Box 1749, Halifax NS, B3J3A5  
902.497.7278 | [kathryn.morse@halifax.ca](mailto:kathryn.morse@halifax.ca)

### Council Constituency Coordinator

Ken Benoit  
902.490.7184

### 311 Contact Centre

Dial 311 or email [contactus@311.halifax.ca](mailto:contactus@311.halifax.ca)