

# Councillor Billy Gillis

LOWER SACKVILLE – BEAVER BANK



DISTRICT 15  
NEWSLETTER

## WELCOME DECEMBER!



Happy Hanukkah! Happy Holidays! Merry Christmas! Happy Kawanzaa! Happy New Year!

It's exciting to present my first district newsletter to you! I wish to thank you for your

support in the recent municipal election. I am humbled to be your elected representative on Halifax Regional Council, North West Community Council and a variety of boards and committees. I look forward to working with you on municipal matters and meeting you at upcoming community events. I will have office space at the Sackville Sports Stadium if you would like to meet with me.

Keep reading for information on upcoming community events as well as the Seniors Snow Removal Program, the Tax Relief for Non-Profit organizations Program, active planning applications for the Lower Sackville – Beaver Bank area and much more!

If you wish to discuss a municipal program or service, please contact me at [Billy.Gillis@halifax.ca](mailto:Billy.Gillis@halifax.ca) or call 902.471.6906.

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## DECEMBER MEETING DATES

Regional Council, Budget Committee and North West Community Council meetings will be held on:

### Budget Committee:

Tuesday, December 10 at 10:00 a.m.

### Regional Council:

Tuesday, December 3 at 10:30 a.m.

Tuesday, December 10 (Following Budget Committee)

### North West Community Council:

Monday, December 9 at 7:00 p.m.

### Standing Committees:

Appeals Standing Committee

- Thursday, December 5 at 10:00 a.m.

Audit & Finance Standing Committee

- Wednesday, December 11 at 10:00 a.m.

Special Events Advisory Committee

- Friday, December 13 (Cancelled)

## DID YOU KNOW....

December is Universal Human Rights month; Seasonal Affective Disorder Awareness month; National Write a Business Plan Month; and, Universal Health Coverage Awareness Month.

December 1 – World AIDS Day

December 2 – Cyber Monday

December 2 – International Day for the Abolition of Slavery

December 3 – Giving Tuesday

December 3 - International Day of Persons With Disabilities

December 4 – International Cookie Day

December 5 – International Volunteer Day

December 6 – St. Nicholas

December 6 - National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women

December 9 – Green Monday

December 10 – Nobel Prize Day

December 10 - Human Rights Day

December 13 – National Violin Day

December 17 – International Maple Syrup Day

December 17 - Anti-Bullying Day

December 21 – Winter Solstice

December 24 – Christmas Eve

December 25 – Christmas Day

December 25 – Hannukah (Start)

December 26 – Boxing Day

December 26 – Kawanzaa

December 28 – National Call a Friend Day

December 31 – New Year's Eve

## WINTER RECREATION PROGRAM REGISTRATION NOW OPEN



Course catalogues for winter 2025 recreation programming are now available [online](#).

Registration for dryland programming starts at 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, December 4.

Registration for skating & aquatic programs will open at 10:00 a.m. Thursday, December 5. The new course listings can be found [here](#).



## BREAKFAST WITH SANTA



Beaver Bank Kinsac Community Centre

Breakfast with Santa

Saturday  
**DECEMBER**  
**7<sup>TH</sup>**  
8:30-10:30AM

TICKETS MUST BE PURCHASED IN ADVANCE

\$7/ TICKET INCLUDES PANCAKES, BACK BACON, HASHBROWNS, JUICE, COFFEE OR TEA

Keener's bake sale!

Bring your food donations & help our fire dept stuff a port a tank!

902-865-5114 FMI or to get tickets

Include your name and address on your letter to Santa!

www.bkcc.com

## NOVA SCOTIA POWER HOLIDAY PARADE OF LIGHTS



On Sunday, December 8, starting at 5:00 p.m., Downtown Halifax will celebrate the 29th annual [Nova Scotia Power Holiday Parade of Lights](#), presented by Eastlink and hosted by the Holiday Parade of Lights Society. Santa will make a special appearance to bring the celebration to a joyful close, delighting everyone with his festive spirit.

For all inquiries related to the parade, please email [hpolsociety@gmail.com](mailto:hpolsociety@gmail.com).

## LIGHT UP THE PARK




From November 30 to December 31 bundle up, grab some hot cocoa, and take a stroll through twinkling lights at Acadia Park, 650 Sackville Drive!

Thanks to the sponsorship of Sackville businesses, the trees surrounding Acadia Park will be lit with over 20,000 shining white lights to create a winter wonderland. The park will be aglow and remain lit until December 31 each night from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Proceeds raised go to [Acadia Park](#).

## CHRISTMAS MOVIE NIGHT ON FILM FARM



Dec. 6th - 208 Rosley Rd. Beaverbank

Join us to enjoy the new Hallmark Christmas movie 'Believe in Christmas' and get your photo taken with the star, 'Meghan Ory'

6:00pm - Photos with Meghan  
6:30pm - Pre-show 'Tootles Saves Christmas'  
7:00pm - Introduce cast  
7:10pm - Movie begins!  
8:45pm - Q&A

\*\$10 per photo and all proceeds go to the IWK Cancer Foundation\*

Guests can enjoy the Hallmark favourite, [Believe In Christmas](#), starring Meghan Ory and John Reardon, and meet the stars after the screening. Attendees are encouraged to bring a chair, dress warmly, and savour festive snacks and drinks in the beautifully decorated barn — perfect for a cozy holiday experience.



## CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS ORNAMENT WORKSHOP



Looking for a fun and creative way for your child to get into the holiday spirit? Good Vibes Wellness Center is hosting a [Christmas Ornament Workshop](#) on December 8 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. This exciting event is perfect for children aged 6-8 who love to craft and create.

For just \$25 + tax, kids will design and decorate their very own unique Christmas Tree ornaments to take home and hang on the tree!

All materials are included and friendly staff will guide them through the creative process. Don't miss out on this festive children's Christmas event—spaces are limited!



## KIND CONSIDERATIONS “HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS” POP UP MARKET



On Saturday, December 14 you'll find a wide variety of over 20 local makers, bakers, and farmers at Acadia Hall in Lower Sackville. Open from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. inside Acadia Hall, at 650 Sackville Drive.

## COMMUNITY EATS - END OF YEAR FEAST



The Sackville Public Library is hosting a get-together for the community before Community Eats closes for the winter holiday. Swing by on Wednesday, December 18 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. for all-ages fun and plenty of yummy food.

There will be crafts for both kids and adults, cozy conversations and relaxing music. All ages welcome!

## SACKVILLE SHOPS LOCAL – CHRISTMAS CRAFT MARKET



Come out and support the 7th Annual Sackville Shops Local Christmas Craft Market on Saturday, December 21 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Royal Canadian Legion, 45 Sackville Cross Road!

Browse items from [40+ local crafters](#), grab something special for someone's gift and pick up something for yourself!

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## SACKVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY



The Sackville Public Library offers many programs and activities. Below is a short list of what is available in the month of December. Click [here](#) for more events and information.

### BABY & TOT DROP-IN

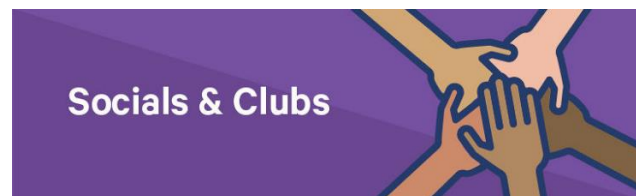
The Sackville Public Library welcomes you to the Baby & Tot Drop-in Program on Tuesday, December 3 from 10:00 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.

Babies will hear stories, songs, rhymes, and interact with other babies. Parents and caregivers learn new songs and fun things to do with baby, plus have some social time with other grown-ups.

Ages 0-18 months and caregivers. Older siblings are welcome to tag along.

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### THE INBETWEENERS



Calling all those in grades 5-6!

Sackville Public Library has created a program just for you. No littles, no teens, just the inbetweeners; the tweens; you!

Drop-in on Tuesday, December 3 and/or December 10 between 3:45 p.m. and 4:45 p.m. for an hour of arts and crafts, games and activities, and much more.

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### ALZHEIMER'S CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP

Join the Caregiver Support Group on Tuesday, December 03 from 6:30 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. for a safe place to come together regularly for mutual care and support. These confidential groups provide space to talk, listen, and share information, tips, and strategies. Registration required. Click here to [Register for event](#).

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### HOUSING SUPPORT AT THE LIBRARY

On Wednesday, December 4 from 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon, come to the Sackville Public Library to meet Rachel Smith, RSW and Case Manager, from the Beacon House Shelter.

Ms. Smith will be at the Library on Wednesdays to provide housing support services. To make an appointment with Rachel, please call (902) 789-0764.

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### PAJAMA PARTY AND STUFFY SLEEPOVER

On Wednesday, December 4 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. the Sackville Public Library is hosting a sleepover for your teddy bears, stuffies, and dollies.

Wear your favourite pajamas and play some giant games. Or curl up with your fuzzy friends for a sleepy-time story-time.

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### STITCH NICHE KNITTING GROUP

On Wednesday, December 4 from 6:30 to 7:45 p.m., new and experienced knitters (and crocheters) are welcome to join this needle crafting crew.

The group meets weekly to share project ideas, learn from each other, and socialize.

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## ACTIVE PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The following is a list of active planning applications for the Lower Sackville and Beaver Bank area. For a full list of projects, [click here](#).

### [PLANAPP 2023-00368 \(Formerly 24508\): 70-80 First Lake Drive, Lower Sackville](#)

Upland Studio are requesting substantive amendments to an existing development agreement for 70-80 First Lake Drive, Lower Sackville to include two 6-storey multiple unit dwellings on a shared podium and a new drive-through commercial building. This will fit with the Sackville Secondary Municipal Planning Strategy and.

The site will now be re-examined under the Suburban Plan comprehensive planning process.

and development in suburban communities (areas with piped water and sewer outside the Regional Centre). For more information on the Suburban Plan and it's planning process, please visit the Regional Plan Review website by clicking [here](#).

For further information, please contact:

**Dean MacDougall**

Planner III

Development Services

Telephone: [902.240.7085](tel:902.240.7085)

Email: [macdoude@halifax.ca](mailto:macdoude@halifax.ca)

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### [PLANAPP 2023-00656 - 400 Sackville Drive, Lower Sackville](#)

Fathom Studio is applying to enter into a development agreement at 400 Sackville Drive for a mixed-use development of two buildings connected by underground parking. This includes:

- One 8-storey building with 105 residential units and approximately 2084 square feet of ground floor commercial space;
- One 12-storey building with 94 residential units and approximately 4510 square feet of ground floor commercial space;
- 2-level underground parking podium connecting the two buildings above;
- Shared open space on top of the underground parking garage for residents and visitors; and,
- A walking trail to connect the development to Little Sackville River.

The public engagement summary is available [here](#). Next steps involve revised plans from the applicant to be reviewed by municipal staff and external stakeholders.

For further information, please contact:

**Megan Backos**

Planner III, Current Planning

Telephone: [902.478.9725](tel:902.478.9725)

Email: [backosm@halifax.ca](mailto:backosm@halifax.ca)

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## [PLANAPP 2023-00943 - 498 Sackville Dr, Lower Sackville](#)

An application by Paul Skerry Architects Limited to enter into a Development Agreement at 498 Sackville Drive, Lower Sackville to allow for a 7 to 8-storey mixed use building containing 70 residential units and main-level commercial facing Sackville Drive.

A public information meeting was held on November 20 at Acadia Hall. The public engagement period will close on December 2. After public engagement closes, plan refinement and the creation of a draft development agreement and staff report will begin.

For further information or to provide comment on the proposal, please contact:

### **Taylor MacIntosh**

Planner II

Current Planning

Telephone: [902.219.0836](tel:902.219.0836)

Email: [macintta@halifax.ca](mailto:macintta@halifax.ca)

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## [PLANAPP 2023-01594 - 143 & 153 Sackville Drive, Lower Sackville](#)

Application by Stephen Adams Consulting Inc. for a development agreement at 143 & 153 Sackville Drive, Lower Sackville to construct a 14-storey mixed-use building with 294 residential units and ground floor commercial.

For further information, please contact:

### **Dean MacDougall**

Planner III

Current Planning

Telephone: [902.240.7085](tel:902.240.7085)

Email: [dean.macdougall@halifax.ca](mailto:dean.macdougall@halifax.ca)

## [PLANAPP 2024-00312 - 229 Beaver Bank Road, Beaver Bank](#)

Application for a development agreement to permit the construction of five townhouse-style multi-unit buildings (17 total units) at 229 Beaver Bank Road, Beaver Bank.

For further information, please contact:

### **Matt Conlin**

Planner III

Current Planning

Telephone: [902.719.9457](tel:902.719.9457)

Email: [conlinm@halifax.ca](mailto:conlinm@halifax.ca)

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## **COGSWELL DISTRICT TRANSIT TERMINAL TO OPEN**



Since June 17 Barrington Street, from Upper Water Street to Duke Street, has been closed to accommodate

construction in support of the Cogswell District project. This was a major closure that impacted drivers, Halifax Transit, pedestrians, cyclists, and property owners as it required the relocation of the Barrington Street bus bays and the rerouting of 30 Halifax Transit routes.

Residents are advised that on December 16 the new Halifax Transit Terminal at Scotia Square will open, rerouting approximately 30 Halifax Transit routes that have been on detour for the last six months. The Transit Terminal will include new heated shelters, additional seating and waiting space for passengers, wider sidewalks and an additional bus bay. New trees and landscaping elements will be installed in 2025.

In addition to these changes, Valour Way, which closed in February 2023, will re-open, and the

new roundabout, which partially opened in October, will be fully operational as of December 16, with a temporary connection to Nora Bernard Street. The Nora Bernard Street connection will facilitate local access to the businesses on Amalamek Way but will not connect to Brunswick Street at this time.

Cogswell Street, from Brunswick Street to Upper Water Street, will also open on December 16. At this time, the transit lanes along Barrington Street through the roundabout, and on Cogswell Street between Barrington Street and Gottingen Street, will come into effect.

To learn more about the Cogswell District project, visit our [website](#).

## WINTER GREEN CART TIPS



When temperatures drop, materials in green carts can freeze and cause issues for both residents

and waste haulers. To avoid some of the problems associated with green cart in the winter, our Solid Waste Resources team has some helpful tips:

- Put your green cart out for each collection, even if it's not full. This will give material less time to freeze
- Line the bottom of your green cart with a yard waste bag, boxboard or newspaper
- Place your green cart in a place where the sun can reach it
- Wrap food in paper scraps

More information on green carts can be found on our [webpage](#).

## AUTOMATED CART-BASED COLLECTION SURVEY

**Automated cart-based collection survey**  
We want to hear from you!

Complete the survey online at [shapeyourcityhalifax.ca](https://shapeyourcityhalifax.ca). For an alternate way to participate, call 311.

**Survey deadline: December 20, 2024**



HALIFAX

The Halifax Regional Municipality is conducting a survey to gauge interest and support for automated cart-based collection. The survey will be available until December 20 and takes approximately 10 minutes to complete.

The results of the survey will be used to inform a 'Garbage/Organics Automated Cart Based Collection Implementation Plan' which staff will present to the Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee in the first quarter of fiscal year 2025/26.

There are several options for residents to access the survey:

- Online at: [Shape Your City – Solid Waste Strategy Review](#)
- Physical copies will be available in standard print and large print for pick-up at each of the municipal [Customer Service Centres](#) (Alderney Gate, Bayers Road and Musquodoboit Harbour).

Solid Waste staff are also hosting 20 pop-up events across the municipality to promote the survey and offer printed copies for residents to fill out. A list of events is available on [Shape Your City](#).

Rationale for adopting cart-based collection is typically related to health and safety considerations, modernization of collection infrastructure, citizen satisfaction (e.g. ease of use and storage) and protection from animals.



Cart-based collection for recycling (blue carts) is not included as part of this evaluation, as responsibility for blue bag material will shift from the municipality to producers in December 2025 under the provincial Extended Producer Responsibility program.

For questions about the cart-based collection survey [contact 311](#).

## TAX RELIEF FOR NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS PROGRAM

**HALIFAX** Tax Relief for Non-Profit Organizations Program  
Administrative Order 2014-001-ADM  
Application Form: New Applications to Add a Property to the Program

The municipality is pleased to announce that the Tax Relief for Non-Profit Organizations Program is now accepting applications for 2024-2025. Organizations applying for acceptance into the program (or the addition of another property) must submit a complete application on or before Friday January 31, 2025.

The municipality's Tax Relief for Non-Profit Organizations Program can help eligible nonprofit and charitable organizations reduce the amount of property tax they pay each year. You can find the application form online on the Program's [website](#) or by emailing [non-profittax@halifax.ca](mailto:non-profittax@halifax.ca).



## APPLICATIONS FOR BOARDS, COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS



The Halifax Regional Municipality is seeking applications for volunteers to serve on a variety of municipal boards, committees and commissions. Applications are available [here](#) and will be accepted until Monday, December 16 at 11:59 p.m.

Municipal boards, committees, and commissions consist of councillors, residents and industry representatives. These groups provide recommendations to Regional Council, Community Councils, Standing Committees or municipal staff – and serve as an important part of the decision-making process.

There are 39 volunteer positions available on the following bodies:

- [Accessibility Advisory Committee](#)
- [Active Transportation Advisory Committee](#)
- [Audit Committee](#)
- [African Descent Advisory Committee](#)
- [Board of Police Commissioners](#)
- [Grants Committee](#)
- [Heritage Advisory Committee](#)
- [Point Pleasant Park Advisory Committee](#)
- [Special Events Advisory Committee](#)
- [Women & Gender Equity Advisory Committee](#)
- [Youth Advisory Committee](#)

Information on each board, committee and commission – including terms of reference, meeting schedules, minutes, agendas, and reports – can be found on [halifax.ca](http://halifax.ca). Applicants are encouraged to review these resources before applying to learn more about the role and typical work performed by each board, committee and commission.

The municipality is seeking board, committee and commission members that are reflective and inclusive of residents from across the municipality. Applicants from Black/African Nova Scotian communities, youth, women, persons with disabilities, Indigenous persons, and Francophone/Acadian, newcomer and 2SLGBTQ+ communities are encouraged to self-identify.

For more information or to apply, visit [halifax.ca/serve](http://halifax.ca/serve). Residents can also contact [serve@halifax.ca](mailto:serve@halifax.ca) or call 902-490-4210 for questions about the appointment process or to request accommodations.

## 2025 VOLUNTEER AWARDS



Halifax Regional Municipality is advising residents that applications have opened for the 2025 Volunteer Awards. The application period closes on Wednesday, January 8, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.

Every year, the municipality recognizes the extraordinary contributions of outstanding individuals and groups who volunteer their time and skills to provide services and programs in their communities. The annual Volunteer

Awards put a spotlight on the residents who volunteer in our region.

There are three categories open for applications: Youth, Adult and Group. The award recipients will be announced at the 2025 Volunteer Awards ceremony on Wednesday, April 30. This coincides with National Volunteer Week.

For more information, visit [our website](http://our website).

## 2025 URBAN DESIGN AWARDS



The Halifax Regional Municipality is calling for submissions to the 2025 Urban Design Awards – a celebration of urban design excellence in the Halifax region that occurs every two years. The submission deadline is February 10, 2025.

To qualify for an award, projects must have been completed after January 1, 2020, and meet one of the nine following awards categories (each with different eligibility requirements for award selection):

- Urban Design Plans
- Urban Architecture
- Landscape Architecture and Civic Design Projects
- Urban Elements

- Housing Solutions
- Community Connections and Initiatives
- Heritage Restoration Projects
- Heritage Adaptive Re-use Projects
- Student Projects

A panel of four independent jurors will evaluate the submissions looking for category-specific criteria and broader design principles such as human scale, community context and intentional accessible or inclusive features.

The submission fee is \$402.50 (including taxes) and this fee is waived for nonprofit and student projects. Student submissions will be accepted until April 20, 2025.

An awards ceremony will take place on **Monday, May 26, 2025** at the **Halifax Central Library**. Attendance will be open to the public and additional information will be shared closer to the event.

For more information or to submit an application, please visit [the website](#) or contact [urbandesign@halifax.ca](mailto:urbandesign@halifax.ca).

## HALIFAX TRANSIT CODE



Halifax Transit has been working closely with the Canadian Urban Transit Association (CUTA) on safety and respect in transit systems. It is exciting to announce that CUTA has decided to adopt HRM's Transit Code campaign for adaptation into a National campaign for safety

and respect in transit systems. This program previously won a national award through CUTA.

This is now live and can be found [here](#).

It's definitely a proud moment to see our work recognized as a national leading practice, and I want to extend my congratulations once again to the business units and staff involved, particularly Halifax Transit and Corporate Communications.

## FALL CYCLING TIPS



As the days get darker, it's important for cyclists to take extra safety precautions. Here are some safety

tips for cyclists during the fall season:

- Remember to charge your bike lights.
- You are legally required to have a light at the front of your bike (or e-scooter) and a red reflector or red light at the back.
- Use your lights after dark and 30 minutes before dawn + dusk.
- Reduced daylight hours mean reduced visibility. Consider wearing brighter or reflective clothing and be extra aware of other road users around you.

Fall is a great time for cycling, keep up the good habits with some extra preparation. Learn more about cycling in the Halifax region [here](#).





## SENIOR SNOW REMOVAL PROGRAM



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

Did you know that there is a snow removal program available for seniors (ages 65 and older) and persons with disabilities to help ensure safe access to your

home?

The [Senior 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.

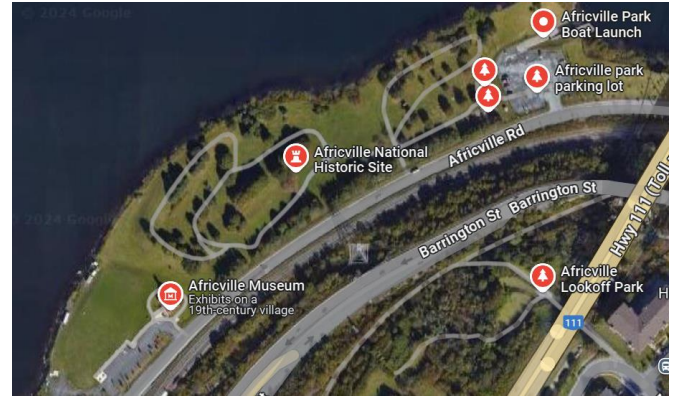
Those 65+ or persons with disabilities must also meet the following eligibility criteria:

- The participant must reside in a single dwelling home which is owned or rented;
- The participant, also including all individuals who live on the premises aged eighteen or older, must not exceed a total gross household income of \$32,000, and;
- The participant 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 2024/2025 application package online.

Completed applications may be emailed to [ssr@halifax.ymca.ca](mailto:ssr@halifax.ymca.ca) faxed to 902-423-8530 or can be mailed or dropped off in person to:  
Attention: YMCA Senior Snow Removal  
Community YMCA  
2269 Gottingen Street  
Halifax, NS B3K 3B7

## AFRICVILLE - UNESCO DESIGNATION



The Halifax Regional Municipality congratulates the Africville Heritage Trust on the [recent UNESCO designation](#) of Africville as a Place of History and Memory linked to Enslavement and the Slave Trade. Africville is the first location in Canada to receive this designation.

The municipality remains committed to continue supporting the Africville Heritage Trust, the Africville Genealogy Society and the descendants of Africville. This work includes the Africville Visioning Project – where community members will have a voice in the development of a long-term vision for Africville. Community input will be key in shaping the areas of focus and informing the accompanying phases, priorities and actions.

For more information, visit our [website](#).

## SHELTER VILLAGES



The Halifax Regional Municipality is committed to treating people experiencing homelessness

in our public spaces with dignity while working to find ways to best support them within our capacity and scope as a municipality.

The municipality has worked with the province to identify potential shelter village locations and it was determined that municipal land on Thomas Raddall Drive and Bancroft Lane were best suited to meet the needs of those experiencing homelessness.

Shelter villages are not tent encampments. They are staffed by trained professionals 24/7 to help residents and address any concerns and wrap around supports will be available on site for people to help them transition toward permanent housing including food and medical supports.

Each shelter has a bed, desk, chair, storage, and have both air conditioning and heat. This means open fires or fuel-based heaters are not permitted. Beyond the shelters themselves bathrooms, showers and laundry services are on site and as well as a communal meeting space for staff and residents to use.

The province and their service provider commit to being good neighbours in their community, including responding to community concerns. The Shelter Villages will be fenced and have security cameras as well as on site security. The municipality will provide garbage removal as well as snow and ice control for the main road into the shelter village.

These initiatives, along with the tiny home project, will provide 150 new spaces for people experiencing homelessness. We will continue to work with the Province to transition people sleeping rough outdoors to appropriate sheltering options.

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## **YOUTH CLIMATE ACTION FUND RECIPIENTS**

Congratulations to the winners of the [Youth Climate Action Fund](#) grant program!

Earlier this year, the Halifax Regional Municipality was selected as one of 100 cities internationally to participate in the Youth Climate Action Fund program by Bloomberg Philanthropies and United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), a youth micro-granting program with values from \$1,000 to \$5,000 USD for youth-led climate projects and initiatives, distributed by the municipality.

The municipality received 15 applications from youth and youth-serving organizations who are passionate about being a part of the solution to climate change. A total of \$50,000 USD will be granted to the eleven selected applicants. The selected organizations and their respective project titles are listed below:

- Caring for the Barrens, Caring for the Barrens Kjiptuk - Community Capacity Building
- DalSol (Dalhousie University), Solar-Powered Electric Race Vehicle Open House
- Girl Child Art Foundation - Banye Art, My Climate and Art: A Climate Justice Art Exhibition
- Hope Blooms, Community Climate Action Mural
- Level. Changing Lives Through Law, Environmental Justice Program
- Oakhill Outdoor, Oakhill Biomass Project
- ONE North End, Low Carbon African Nova Scotian Community Ideas Mobilization
- Preston Area Food Network, Growing Resilience: Youth Empowerment Through Sustainable Gardening
- Rotaract Club of Halifax, Seeds of Tomorrow
- Shambhala School, Turning the (Green) Tide: Investigating the Applications of Algal Climate Relief

- Woodlawn High School's Oceans Club in partnership with the Canadian Wildlife Federation, From Land to Sea

You can find more details on the Youth Climate Action Fund program [here](#).

## OPEN DATA UPDATE



A wide range of data can be sourced for free through our Open Data catalogue. Last month, we added [NSPW HRM Service Exchange Boundary 1996 data](#).

And have modified the [HRM Traffic Studies](#), [Traffic Calming Assessments](#) and [Transit Automated Passenger Counts](#) data sets.

The Open Data initiative was launched in early 2014 to help improve resident engagement and enhance transparency on municipal data. The program was formalized by Regional Council later that year through the adoption of [Administrative Order 2014-006-ADM Respecting Open Data](#).

For more information on the municipality's Open Data program, and to access all the datasets, visit our [website](#).

## HALIFAX INDEPENDENT CIVILIAN REVIEW FOR ENCAMPMENT EVICTIONS

On Tuesday, September 10, *The Halifax Independent Civilian Review Into August 18, 2021 Encampment Evictions* was presented to Regional Council for their review.

On August 18, 2021, tent occupants in various public spaces, including municipal parks, were directed to remove their encampments, with the assistance or participation of municipal

compliance officers, Parks & Recreation staff and HRP. Concerns were expressed about the role and involvement of HRP in the eviction of unhoused and/ or underhoused individuals and in its handling of the related protests.

On May 3, 2023, the Board of Police Commissioners [announced the commissioning of an independent civilian review](#) of the issues relating to the Board's oversight, governance and policy responsibilities that arose out of the response. Cooper, Sandler, Shime & Schwartzentruber LLP conducted the independent civilian review which began in June 2023. The report is available on the Board [webpage](#), along with the Terms of Reference for the independent civilian review.

The Board has directed that Halifax Regional Police initiate an assessment of the Review and provide a report and Regional Council requested a report from the Chief Administrative Officer to review the Independent Civilian Review's recommendations pertaining to Halifax Regional Municipality, develop an action plan and report back to Council.

## NEW STREET NAMES - COGSWELL DISTRICT



The Halifax Regional Municipality is announcing three new street names in the Cogswell District:  
 Reconciliation Way  
 Dr. Alfred Waddell Street  
 Amalamek Way



These names were included in the commemorative names list and were approved by Regional Council on September 3.

### **Reconciliation Way**

*Name changeover date: November 20*

The name Reconciliation Way was approved as it reflects the history and culture of the municipality's diverse communities.

Reconciliation is a process that requires acknowledging historical and ongoing injustices inflicted upon Indigenous people and learning about our collective commitment to one another through the Peace and Friendship Treaties signed in Mi'kma'ki/Nova Scotia. Reconciliation also means taking action to address and remediate injustice, as well as building positive relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples that are based in respect and equality.

Reconciliation Way will open in early December.

### **Dr. Alfred Waddell Street**

*Name changeover date: November 25*

The name Dr. Alfred Waddell Street was approved as it reflects an individual who has demonstrated excellence, courage or exceptional service to the citizens of the municipality.

Dr. Alfred Waddell was among the first of Dalhousie University's black physicians to graduate. He established his first medical practice at the southwest corner of Gottingen and Nora Bernard streets. Dr. Waddell dedicated his life to providing medical care to isolated, marginalized and underserved communities while speaking out against racial injustice, oppression and segregation through lobbying and other efforts.

Dr. Alfred Waddell Street will open in early December.

### **Amalamek Way (Um-a-lem-ick)**

*Name changeover date: December 9*

Following the recommendation from the Task Force on the Commemoration of Edward Cornwallis and the Recognition and Commemoration of Indigenous History, Amalamek, the Mi'kmaq word for mackerel, was approved as a commemorative name as it reflects or represents traditions and tradition bearers. This name honours the historical fishing patterns of the Mi'kmaq people.

Amalamek Way is open to local traffic only.

For more information on the Cogswell District project, click [here](#).



## **SENIORS CARE GRANT**



The provincial Seniors Care Grant helps low-income seniors

with the cost of household services like lawn care, snow removal, grocery delivery, transportation, small home repairs and phone service, healthcare services like physiotherapy and mental health support and home heating. Grants are \$750 for each household. You can find out more information and the application form [here](#).

## HEATING ASSISTANCE REBATE PROGRAM



The provincial Heating Assistance Rebate Program provides assistance to low- and moderate-income Nova Scotians for help with the cost of home heating. Rebates are \$600/household. Find out more and apply by March 31 [here](#).

### IN THE COMMUNITY



was proud to make my first cheque presentation, since being elected Councillor, to the Sackville Sport Heritage Hall of Fame. Accepting the cheque are Crystal Spence, Board Member, and Darrell Dempster, President of the Sackville Sport Heritage Hall of Fame Society. The funds will be used for the production and installation of new display cases for the upper wall.



I had a great time riding on the HRM Float in support of the Beaver Bank Kinsac Lions Club Parade of Lights! Thanks to Lyle Mailman and all the volunteers who made this

event such a success!



Here I am on Tuesday, November 19, my first Regional Council session as Councillor for District 15 Lower Sackville – Beaver Bank. Ready to start work and tackle the many issues I heard during the campaign that are important to the good people of Lower Sackville and Beaver Bank.



Had a great time at the Sackville Tree Lighting! It was wonderful to see so many people enjoying the annual community event.



I was honoured to participate in the Sackville Remembrance Day ceremony and lay the

wreath on behalf of HRM. Thank you to Lisa Blackburn for laying the wreath at the Beaver Bank services. [#lestweforget](#)

## NEW YEAR'S EVE - CELEBRATE 2025 TOGETHER



The Halifax Regional Municipality is inviting residents to its annual live New Year's Eve celebrations,

taking place on Tuesday, December 31 in the Grand Parade from 11:00 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.

This free event will include a live TV broadcast on Eastlink Community TV, fireworks, music and tons of fun! Visit [here](#) closer to the event date for all the details.

## HALIFAX REGIONAL FIRE & EMERGENCY RECRUITMENT



Halifax Regional Fire & Emergency (HRFE) is accepting applications for career firefighters

from January 2 to January 16, 2025. Career firefighters serve their communities by protecting and preserving life, property and the environment through appropriate emergency management.

The recruitment process is multi-phased and will include an application, aptitude testing, physical abilities testing, a background screening and panel interview. The skills, abilities and competencies measured through each of these phases are in alignment with the requirements for firefighters. Becoming a firefighter is a serious commitment that requires unwavering dedication and extensive preparation at every stage of the recruitment process. Candidates will face rigorous evaluations designed to ensure they are physically and mentally prepared to tackle the challenges of this demanding profession.

HRFE is hosting several community sessions to help potential candidates learn more about the firefighting recruitment process. The community sessions will run from December 10 to January 15. For information about an information session near you, click [here](#). [website](#).

Firefighting is a rewarding and challenging career. Firefighters work long hours and often under highly physically demanding work. Careers with HRFE offer flexible work-life balance and competitive salaries.

For more information, click [here](#).



## PROVINCIAL AND FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVES

**Provincial Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs)** representing the Lower Sackville – Beaver Bank area are:



Paul Wozney  
Sackville-Cobequid  
  
Unit 104, 445 Sackville Drive

Phone: 902-864-6271  
Fax: 902-864-0483

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Rick Burns  
Hammonds Plains –  
Lucasville  
  
St. Margaret's Community  
Centre

12 Westwood Blvd.  
Phone: 902-826-2079  
Fax: 902-826-2089

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The Honourable Brad Johns  
Sackville-Uniacke  
  
Unit 103, 1710 Sackville Drive

Phone: 902-865-6467  
E-mail: [mlabradjohns@gmail.com](mailto:mlabradjohns@gmail.com)

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The Honourable Brian Wong  
Waverley-Fall River-Beaver  
Bank  
1265 Fall River Road  
Suite 101

Phone: 902-576-3411  
E-mail: [brianwongmla@gmail.com](mailto:brianwongmla@gmail.com)

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**Federal Members of Parliament (MPs)** representing the Lower Sackville-Beaver Bank area are:



**Darrell Samson**

Liberal

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Sackville—Preston—Chezzetcook  
Nova Scotia

**Main office - Fall River**  
2-2900 Highway 2  
Fall River, Nova Scotia  
B2T 1W4

Telephone: 902-861-2311  
Fax: 902-861-4620

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## HRM'S LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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

Halifax is committed to strengthening its relationship with Indigenous communities and honouring the significant contributions of Indigenous peoples. Another way the municipality has demonstrated this is by formalizing the official Land Acknowledgement. In Nova Scotia, we are all Treaty People; with that comes roles and responsibilities.

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# COUNCILLOR BILLY GILLIS



## Councillor Billy Gillis

District 15  
Lower Sackville – Beaver Bank

902-471-6906  
billy.gillis@halifax.ca

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

HALIFAX

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I am a member of Halifax Regional Council and the North West Community Council and serve on the following boards and committees:

- Appeals Standing Committee
- Audit & Finance Standing Committee
- Special Events Advisory Committee

