



**COUNCILLOR TRISH PURDY**

**DISTRICT 4 ONLINE NEWS**

**COLE HARBOUR - WESTPHAL - LAKE LOON - CHERRY BROOK**

**DEAR RESIDENTS,**

Happy New Year! I hope this new year will bring you opportunities to accomplish a goal, try something new and connect more with the people in your life.

Keep reading for more information about winter operations, upcoming grant applications, an update on the Cole Harbour Community Centre relocation and much more.

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*



January 2025

**VOLUNTEER AWARD NOMINATION DEADLINE!**

Each year the Mayor and Regional Council recognize the extraordinary contributions of outstanding individuals and groups who volunteer their time and skills to provide services and programs in our communities. This annual event puts a spotlight on amazing people who give of their time in our municipality.

2025 nominations will close at 5 p.m. on Wednesday January 8. Get your nominations in now by checking out the details [here](#).

**JANUARY DATES**

January is [Alzheimer's Awareness Month](#)

**January 24**  
[International Day of Education](#)

**January 27**  
[Holocaust Memorial Day 2023](#)

**January 29**  
[Chinese/Lunar New Year](#) (Year of the Snake)



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### HRP POLICE SCIENCE PROGRAM

Choose a career that makes a difference and join HRP! Applications for the 2026 Halifax Regional Police Science Program are being accepted until January 10, 2025.

Successful applicants will become cadets in a 38-week police training program that prepares them to become police officers with HRP. The program will be based at the Halifax Regional Police Training School in Dartmouth, which is a recognized private career college by the Nova Scotia Department of Labour and Advanced Education.

For more information or to submit your application, visit our [website](#).

### PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENTS

Property Valuation Services Corporation (PVSC) assesses every property in Nova Scotia and mails over 638,000 Property Assessment Notices to property owners every January. If you are a property owner, you should be receiving your latest Property Assessment Notice in the coming weeks. There is an option to appeal/refute your assessment within 31 days of the date on your Assessment Notice.

To learn more about your assessment, call PVSC assessors at 1-800-380-7775 or email them at [inquiry@pvsc.ca](mailto:inquiry@pvsc.ca). Visit their [website](#) to learn more.

### CRIME STOPPERS MONTH

It's Crime Stoppers Month and Halifax Regional Police says that partnering with the public is key to the success of Crime Stoppers Nova Scotia. You can do your part – visit their [website](#) and see what you can do to help. Remember to always report your tips!

January 2025

### COLE HARBOUR COMMUNITY CENTRE RELOCATION

Cole Harbour Community Centre has moved into its new location in Cole Harbour Place.

They are located in a suite on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor directly above the arena while their main space on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor near the back parking lot undergoes renovations. Renovations should be completed in mid-2025 and staff will move into the new space. The current space they are in will remain as offices, meeting spaces, and storage.

Programs begin this month and will take place at the new location, in schools, in the community, and temporarily at Findlay Community Centre until renovations are complete. Staff are looking forward to welcoming new and returning participants to our new space. Please call our front desk at 902.490.4711 or stop by in person with any questions or to register for programs.

### BUS OPERATOR RECRUITMENT



Looking for a career that moves you forward? Join us at Halifax Transit, where your journey to success begins behind the wheel. We provide a paid training program

that includes both classroom and behind-the-wheel instruction and great benefits. To learn more, visit our [website](#).



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### COMMUNITY CORNER

#### 10 Cumberland Drive Planning Application OPEN HOUSE at Cole Harbour Place:

10 Cumberland Drive Planning Application: HRM Planning and Development will be hosting an OPEN HOUSE at Cole Harbor Place on Wednesday January 15, 6 – 8 p.m. in the Westphal Room. It will be an open house format and not a traditional Public Information Meeting. Attendees can drop in anytime and the HRM planner will be there with the developer to discuss the proposal and receive feedback using information boards for reference.

The developer is proposing a 8 storey multi-unit building fronting onto Cumberland Drive with 2.5 levels of underground parking. Come out to learn more and ask any questions you may have.

#### 78 Sherwood:

There has been a subdivision application submitted to HRM for one lot. The lot looks to be Lot E from the proposed site plan, but this is speculation only. The application does not indicate the proposed use of the subdivided land, however, if it is Lot E, that would indicate that this application is for the 3 townhouse units proposed.

#### Broom Road Development:

The application is still under review for this site. No permits have been issued to date.

### COMMUNITY DROP IN

I'll be hosting a community drop in at the end of this month at Tim Hortons on Forest Hills Parkway. Drop by Friday January 31 from 10 – 11 a.m. to chat about issues important to you.

January 2025



*please join us...*

## January 2025

# Members Meeting

JANUARY 8TH 2025

8:30 AM - 9:30 AM

1150 COLE HARBOUR ROAD (COLE HARBOUR FIRE HALL)

@ColeHarbourBusiness

@ColeHarbourAndAreaBusinessAssociation

### COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM

The Halifax Regional Municipality is advising eligible registered non-profit and charitable organizations that applications for the [Community Grants Program](#) have opened.

The program provides annual cash grants to registered non-profit organizations and charities located throughout the region. There are two grants available – a project grant of up to \$5,000 or a capital grant of up to \$25,000 with seven funding categories.

Applicants should review the [2025/26 Program Guidebook](#) prior to applying, and first-time applicants are encouraged to contact municipal staff prior to submitting an application. For more information, visit our [website](#).



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### 2025/26 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

Halifax Regional Council has begun the process of reviewing the municipal budget for the 2025/26 fiscal year.

The municipal budget funds all costs associated with servicing our growing municipality. This includes day-to-day municipal operations, capital priority initiatives approved by Regional Council and capital projects and investments to purchase, construct, rehabilitate and replace municipal assets. Residents are encouraged to check out these meetings, you can even have the opportunity to speak directly to the Budget Committee during the public participation portion of each meeting:

#### 2023/24 Strategic Performance Report and Snapshot - Tuesday, January 14

Outlining progress on strategic key performance indicators from the [Strategic Priorities Plan 2021-25](#).

#### Budget Introduction and Capital Plan

**Recommendation** - Wednesday, February 5

High level discussion of the starting point for the 2025/26 municipal budget.

#### Business Unit and Budget Presentations -

Wednesday, February 12 to Wednesday, February 26

Each municipal business unit will present their proposed budget and business plan for discussion.

- o Wednesday, February 12 – Public Safety (including Community Safety; Halifax Regional Fire & Emergency; Halifax Regional Police; and Royal

Canadian Mounted Police Halifax Regional Detachment)

- o Wednesday, February 19 and Thursday, February 20 – Operations (including Halifax Transit; Parks & Recreation; Planning & Development; Property, Fleet & Environment; and Public Works).
- o Wednesday, February 26 – Corporate Services (including Chief Administrative Office; Finance & Asset Management; Human Resources; Information Technology; and Legal & Legislative Services).

#### Budget Adjustment List (BAL) Review -

Wednesday, March 19

Reviewing all additional items that business units have presented beyond their proposed budgets, including add-ons (“overs”) and subtractions (“unders”).

#### Final Budget Approval - Tuesday, April 8

Please note these dates are subject to change. For the most up-to-date information, visit our [website](#).



at The Canteen on Portland Street!

Our annual Dartmouth Elected Officials Christmas lunch today! Great food and atmosphere



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### SNOW CLEARING SERVICE STANDARDS

During a storm, our crews have 4,322 lane kms or road, 1,000 kms of sidewalks plus bike lanes, multi-use pathways and bus stops to clear. They begin their work before the winter weather event even begins by applying salt or brine to streets and sidewalks across the region and snow clearing efforts begin once the snow has begun to accumulate.

Streets and sidewalks are prioritized based on traffic volumes, local amenities such as hospitals and schools and steepness. We work as quickly as possible to get all streets cleared, but Priority 1 roads should be cleared to bare pavement within a maximum of 12 hours of the end of a weather event and Priority 2 Roads should be snow covered but passable within a maximum of 24 hours from the end of an event. You can find out who clears your street and what priority level it is with our interactive map [here](#). More information about the service standards and sidewalk priority levels can be found [here](#).

If your street or sidewalk does not meet the standards, please call 311 and they will dispatch a crew. In exceptional weather events, these timelines may not be able to be met, but we do our best to clear as quickly as possible.

For more information on municipal winter operations, please visit our [website](#).



Great turn out to the 2025 City Hall New Year's Levee. Happy New Year HRM!

### EAST PRESTON RECREATION CENTRE BIOSWALES

The HRM HalifACT team recently supported the installation of two bioswales for the East Preston Recreation Centre to help manage stormwater runoff around this important community hub.

Bioswales are a type of green infrastructure designed to capture rainwater and runoff by allowing water to slowly soak into the soil. They also provide benefits for local ecosystems, as the plants and soil act as natural filters for chemicals, bacteria, fertilizer and other pollutants that would otherwise contaminate our waterbodies. For more HalifACT projects, see their last community update [here](#).



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### FIREFIGHTER RECRUITMENT



Halifax Regional Fire and Emergency are hiring career firefighters. The 2025 Firefighter application period will begin on

January 2 and closes January 16.

The recruitment and selection process includes aptitude testing, physical abilities testing, background screening and a panel interview.

The skills, abilities and competencies measured through each of these phases are in alignment with the requirements for the position of firefighter. Candidates must demonstrate competence and proficiency at each stage to advance.

For more information, check out one of our in person or virtual information sessions beginning at 7:00 p.m. sharp:

In Person

January 9 Station 17 - Cole Harbour

January 14 – St. Andrews Rec Centre

Virtual:

January 15 - [Join the meeting now](#)

[You can find out more details about the process here.](#)

January 2025

### SENIORS CARE GRANTS

The 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](#).

### COUNCILLOR CODE OF CONDUCT

Nova Scotia's Councillor Code of Conduct was adopted by Regional Council at our December 10 meeting.

The new Code of Conduct will replace our previous administrative order and has specific guidelines and sanctions for any violations. The code of conduct includes stipulations for general conduct, the use of confidential information and municipal property, equipment and services, restrictions on any gifts and benefits, relationships with development groups, proper use of influence, business relations, nepotism, fairness, adherence to policy and laws, respecting council decisions, communicating accurately, respectful interactions with Council and staff, and more.

You can read the full code [here](#).

### 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.



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### TAX RELIEF FOR NON PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

The Municipality's Tax Relief for Non-Profit Organizations Program for registered non-profit and Canadian charitable organizations located within the region is open until January 31.

This program can help eligible non-profit and charitable organizations reduce the amount of property tax they pay each year.

This intake is for organizations requesting the addition of a property for the 2025 – 2026 tax year. You can find more information and the application form [here](#).

### WINTER DRIVING TIPS

With winter weather arriving potentially any day, Halifax Regional Police is sharing some winter safety tips to help road users be winter ready. Plan ahead to ensure your vehicle is roadworthy.

- Check your safety inspection sticker and the tread on your tires.
- Consider topping up your vehicle with extra windshield washer fluid.
- Keep a shovel, a bag of salt or sand and your snow brush and ice scraper in your vehicle.

Driving safely for the road conditions

- Stay up to date with the weather conditions.
- Visibility is key. Before you hit the road, clear all snow from the roof, hood, license plate, windows, mirrors, lights, turn signals and cameras of your vehicle. Scrape/defrost your windshield if necessary.
- Be mindful that winter conditions create challenges for pedestrians who may need to walk in the roadway to avoid snow-covered or icy sidewalks.
- Never drive distracted. Keep your hands on the wheel and your eyes on the road. Watch for other road users, pedestrians and cyclists.
- Adjust your speed to the conditions. Leave extra space between you and the vehicle in front of you so that you can safely slow down and/or stop. Remember not to accelerate or brake too quickly when the roads are slippery.

Think before you park on the street. When and where you park in the winter can have a big impact on clearing streets and sidewalks, which, in turn, can affect road safety.

**Do you want the experience of a lifetime?**



If so, apply to

**CAMP COURAGE HALIFAX**

Before February 15<sup>th</sup>



An empowering program that introduces Nova Scotian young women and gender-diverse youth ages 15-19 years to emergency service careers.

Only 24 youth  
**WILL BE SELECTED TO ATTEND THIS FREE CAMP**

**Date : Saturday June 28<sup>th</sup> to Sunday July 6<sup>th</sup> 2025.**









**Contact us at [campcourage.ca](http://campcourage.ca) or Call (902) 701-1405**

Discover Camp Courage in Alberta, Nova Scotia & New Brunswick.



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### WINTER PARKING BAN

The Halifax Regional Municipality is advising residents that the municipal overnight winter parking ban is now in effect during declared weather events to ensure effective snow clearing. Residents are encouraged to plan ahead when snow is in the forecast and secure off-street parking when the overnight winter parking ban is enforced.

The parking ban can be enforced throughout the entire municipality or just by zone. Zone 1 – Central refers to the Halifax peninsula and downtown Dartmouth within Highway 111 (the Circumferential Highway) and some surrounding areas. Zone 2 – Non-Central is any area outside of Zone 1. You can find out what zone you are in [here](#).

To get updates on when the parking ban is in effect, sign up for our [hfxALERT](#) system or check out our [public service announcements](#) or [@hfxgov](#) on X.

The municipality has enhanced enforcement for parking ban violations in areas around hospitals, schools, bus routes and challenging streets to ensure unobstructed access for snow equipment and emergency vehicles. Officers will also be ticketing vehicles obstructing sidewalk clearing.

Regardless of the status of the overnight winter parking ban, vehicles can be ticketed or towed at any time if their vehicle is interfering with snow clearing operations as outlined in Section 139 of the [Nova Scotia Motor Vehicle Act](#).

Learn more about the parking ban [here](#).

### ICE SAFETY



The municipality is no longer conducting ice thickness testing as changing climate patterns, including rapidly fluctuating temperatures, have made ice thickness testing no longer feasible or reliable.

Residents are asked to take safety precautions for themselves and their families by avoiding any further recreation activities on frozen lakes and ponds, including walking, snowmobiling, and skating. If you are going to engage in any activity on frozen lakes, make sure to take precautions. You can find a complete list of guidelines from the Canadian Red Cross regarding ice safety [here](#).

### CHRISTMAS TREE DISPOSAL

The holidays are over! You can dispose of natural Christmas trees by placing them curbside on your regular green cart collection day.

Natural Christmas trees picked up from the curb are processed into mulch for landscaping. Please remove all plastic, tinsel, ornaments, metal rings, nails, stands and plastic tree bags before disposing of your tree.





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### URBAN DESIGN AWARDS 2025

**HALIFAX**

**Urban Design Awards 2025**  
CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

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Submissions must be completed and received by **Feb. 10, 2025**

The Halifax Regional Municipality is now accepting submissions for the 2025 Urban Design Awards. We're recognizing outstanding projects completed after January 1, 2020 that have helped shape and enhance our communities. For details on categories, eligibility and submission guidelines, visit our [website](#).

### COMMUNITY COUNCIL SCHEDULE AND AGENDA

The Harbour East – Marine Drive Community Council normally meets on the first Thursday of each month, at 6 p.m. in the HEMDCC Meeting Space, Main Floor Alderney Gate, 60 Alderney Drive, Dartmouth. Meeting dates, time and location are subject to change. You can find agendas, report, and minutes [online](#). 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 January 9, 2025.

January 2025

### HEATING ASSISTANCE REBATE PROGRAM

The 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](#).

### STREAMING REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETINGS

Regional Council are using a new system for electronic streaming, to find the council videos – go to our [Agendas, Meetings and Reports page](#) and click the meeting you want to view.

Meetings will still be live-streamed and videos will be available after the meeting.

### CONTACT

Should you wish to discuss municipal services or programs, please contact me at [trish.purdy@halifax.ca](mailto: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 Quentin Hill at **902-490-6355**.

For information on all things municipal, please visit our [website](#).

