



COUNCILLOR TONY MANCINI

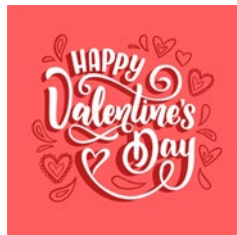
DISTRICT 6 ONLINE NEWS

HARBOURVIEW - BURNSIDE - DARTMOUTH EAST

Together We Can Build Safe, Healthy, Active Communities

WELCOME FEBRUARY

Winter is in full swing but despite the cold temperatures, we still have lots to celebrate this month. It's African Heritage Month, a time to commemorate the many contributions and resilient spirits of African Nova Scotian friends, family and neighbours. February 17 is Heritage Day and this year we will be honouring the accomplishments of Nora Bernard.



I hope to see you all at the first ever Shubie Winterfest taking place on February 8 from 4 – 6 p.m. This will be a fun filled event with a bonfire, marshmallows, hot chocolate, donuts, mascot race, lantern craft making, live music and more!

February is also a time where council begins business unit budget presentations. A schedule of presentations, including how to share your feedback is included below in this newsletter.

Wishing you all a happy and warm February!

BIENVENUE AU MOIS DE FÉVRIER

L'hiver bat son plein, mais malgré les températures froides, nous avons encore beaucoup de choses à célébrer ce mois-ci. C'est le Mois du patrimoine africain, une occasion de commémorer les nombreuses contributions et l'esprit résilient des amis, de la famille et des voisins d'origine africaine en Nouvelle-Écosse. Le 17 février est la Journée du patrimoine, et nous rendrons hommage cette année aux réalisations de Nora Bernard.

J'espère que je vous verrai tous à la toute première Fête d'hiver du parc Shubie, qui aura lieu le 8 février de 16 h à 18 h. Ce sera un événement amusant avec un feu de joie, des guimauves, du chocolat chaud, des beignes, une course de mascottes, une activité de fabrication de lanternes artisanales, des concerts et plus encore!

Le mois de février est également le moment où le conseil commence les présentations budgétaires des unités opérationnelles. Un horaire des présentations, qui comprend des instructions sur la façon de transmettre vos commentaires, est inclus dans ce bulletin ci-dessous. Nous vous souhaitons à tous un février joyeux et chaleureux!



SHUBIE PARK WINTERFEST

Join us for Shubie Winterfest taking place on Saturday February 8 from 4 - 6 p.m. at the Fairbanks Centre. There will be a bonfire, marshmallows, hot chocolate, donuts, timbits, mascot race, lantern craft making live music and much more! I hope to see you there!



SUMMER JOB RECRUITMENT

Applications are now open for our summer casual positions in aquatics, inclusion and recreation programming. These positions are ideal for teenagers and students with a fun work culture, competitive wages and opportunities to work outdoors in an environment that promotes health, wellness and physical activity.

For more information on dates and locations, as well as a list of job openings, visit our [website](#).

AFRICAN HERITAGE MONTH 2025



February is African Heritage Month, a time to celebrate the rich culture, achievements and contributions of African Nova Scotians and communities of African descent in our region and across the nation. This year's provincial theme, *Legacy in Action: Celebrating Black Brilliance*, highlights the living legacy of Black Nova Scotians, honouring the impact and perseverance of the long-standing community. Nova Scotia has 52 historic African Nova Scotian communities with a long, deep and complex history dating back over 400 years.

The Halifax Regional Municipality are committed to fostering safe and inclusive communities for all. Our African Nova Scotian Affairs Integration Office (ANSAIO) are committed to addressing anti-Black racism in our workplaces and communities with the [Anti-Black Racism Framework](#), the [African Descent Advisory Committee](#) advises Regional Council on the impact of municipal policies, programs and services for People of African Descent and we are sponsors of the [Road to Economic Prosperity for African Nova Scotian Communities](#), that encourages community efforts and provides a space for realizing future opportunities for all people of African descent.

This month, City Hall will be illuminated in black, green and red and the Pan-African flag will be displayed at some of our municipal buildings in honour of African Heritage Month. Take time to commemorate African Heritage this month by checking out the [Halifax Public Library portal featuring programs that celebrate the African Nova Scotian community](#).



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CAMP COURAGE

Camp Courage is a free, award-winning program that inspires young women and gender-diverse youth to discover careers in emergency services. This life-changing experience builds confidence, leadership, and resilience while igniting a passion to make a difference.

This program has had a profound impact on youth who have participated in the past. Do you know someone in our community who could benefit from stepping into a world of inspiration, mentorship, and possibility?

Camp Courage can empower the next generation of first responders and leaders. Let's change a life today! For more information, visit their [website](#).

Do you want the experience of a lifetime?

If so, apply to **CAMP COURAGE HALIFAX** Before February 15th

Only 24 youth WILL BE SELECTED TO ATTEND THIS FREE CAMP

Date : Saturday June 28th to Sunday July 6th 2025.

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

Respecting Differences

Contact us at campcourage.ca or Call (902) 701-1405

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

APPEALING PROPERTY ASSESSMENT

The property assessments have been sent out. The province of NS uses Property Valuation Services Corporation (PVSC) to assess the value of your property. These assessments are used to calculate the municipal property taxes.

If you feel your assessment is incorrect then we encourage you to appeal.

Appeals must be submitted 31 days from the date of your Property Assessment Notice. More information can be found [here](#).

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 project grants (up to \$5,000) or capital grants (up to \$25,000) available in the following categories: community arts; diversity and accessibility; environment and climate change; emergency assistance and neighbourhood safety; community histories; leisure; and recreation.

Check out the [2025/26 Program Guidebook](#) prior to applying and find more information about the program on our [website](#).



RESIDENTS INVITED TO LEARN ABOUT NEW MINIMUM PLANNING REQUIREMENTS

The Halifax Regional Municipality is inviting residents to learn more about new Minimum Planning Requirements that will affect policies and regulations regarding housing in our region.

Minimum Planning Requirements are provincial regulations that the municipality's land use plans and strategies must meet as required by the province. In August 2024, the province announced [12 new Minimum Planning Requirements](#) to prioritize increasing housing supply.

To comply with the new regulations, the municipality is making changes to the [Regional Plan](#), as well as Community Plans and land use by-laws.

Check out the new requirements and submit your feedback in our online public engagement by Monday, February 24 [here](#).

Regional Plan

Minimum planning changes in Halifax

What's changing?

The Province of Nova Scotia has introduced new Minimum Planning Requirements Regulations. The Halifax Regional Municipality is updating its land use plans and by-laws to comply with these requirements.

These changes are intended to support the development of more housing supply across the municipality.

Some notable changes affect bedroom unit mix, parking requirements, how building height is measured and ground-floor commercial use requirements.

The public engagement period closes February 24, 2025

For more information:
shapeyourcityhalifax.ca/minimum-planning

HALIFAX

contact us:
regionalplan@halifax.ca
(902) 943-5139

WEAR RED DAY



Heart disease is the number one killer of women worldwide and the leading cause of premature death in Canadian women. Wear Red Canada Day (WRCD) is celebrated annually on February 13 to raise awareness about women's cardiovascular. I hope you will join me and wear red on February 13 for this significant day of awareness.

This national movement first WRDC occurred here in Halifax in 2018, sponsored by our Women's Heart Health Clinic. WRCD is organized by the Canadian Women's Heart Health Alliance (CWHHA), a volunteer group of clinicians, scientists, allied health care providers, and women with lived experience with heart disease from across Canada.

Visit their [website](#) to learn more.

211 NOVA SCOTIA

[211 Nova Scotia](#) is your 24/7 connection to the provincial programs and services in your community that matter most to you. Through information and referrals, 211 helps connect you to local community groups, non-profit and government organizations.

The 211 service is free and confidential. So, whether you want to talk, text, email or use our online search tool, they are there to help.



HERITAGE DAY

Celebrated the third Monday in February, Nova Scotia Heritage Day is an annual reminder of our storied past and an opportunity to honour the remarkable people, places and events that have contributed to this province’s unique heritage.

This year’s honouree is Nora Bernard, a Mi’kmaq activist for her community and First Nations across the country who was instrumental in ensuring justice, recognition and compensation for the survivors of the Canadian Indian Residential School system. Learn more about Nora [here](#).

2nd ANNUAL BLK JOY OPEN MIC

The 2nd Annual BLK JOY Open Mic Event will take place on February 23 at 2 p.m. at North Brewing in support of the Fruits of Our Labour Program of The Boys and Girls Club of Preston. This is a youth culinary education program through the leadership of Charnell Colley and Nicole Johnson in collaboration with numerous community partners. I hope to see you there!

2024 RESIDENT SURVEY

2,029 residents responded to the 2024 Resident Survey in the fall and results were presented to Regional Council last month.

These surveys help to inform where Regional Council can focus our priorities to better serve our residents. Residents provided their feedback on what the top issues facing our municipality are, satisfaction with services and much more. You can check out the presentation [here](#) or the full staff report [here](#).

2025/26 MUNICIPAL BUDGET

This month, Regional Council will be continuing to work with each business unit to direct the 2025/26 budget and business plan and capital plan.

Residents are encouraged to tune in or attend these budget sessions, where we will hear from each business unit and discuss their budget and plan for the next fiscal year and there will be time set aside for public feedback:

Department	Date (contingency date)
Public Safety Community Safety; Halifax Regional Fire & Emergency; Halifax Regional Police; and Royal Canadian Mounted Police Halifax Regional Detachment	Wednesday, February 12 <i>(Contingency: Friday, February 14)</i>
Operations Halifax Transit; Parks & Recreation; Planning & Development; Property, Fleet & Environment; and Public Works	Wednesday, February 19 and Thursday February 20 <i>(Contingency: Friday, February 21)</i>
Corporate Services Chief Administrative Office; Finance & Asset Management; Human Resources; Information Technology; and Legal & Legislative Services	Wednesday, February 26 <i>(Contingency: Friday, February 28)</i>

Next month, Regional Council will review all of the additions (“overs”) and subtractions (“unders”) on the Budget Adjustment List then final budget approval is scheduled for Tuesday, April 8. Visit our [website](#) to tune in or confirm the schedule and details.



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INCLUSION SUPPORT ADVISORY GROUP



We are looking for 8-12 people to make up the Inclusion Support Advisory Group, a volunteer team of residents from all over the region that will be responsible for leading the development of the Inclusion Support Analysis and Evaluation in Parks & Recreation ensuring that key priorities reflect the needs of the disability community.

The advisory group will consist of a mixed group of persons with disabilities, parents of persons with disabilities and service providers of persons with disabilities. This group will help in the following:

- the creation of a municipality-wide survey
- analyzing of data to determine key issues
- providing recommendations that will make up the final plan

Applications are open until Monday, March 3, 2025. Any questions about the inclusion support analysis or the advisory committee, please contact inclusion@halifax.ca. To learn more or apply, visit our [website](#).



Kin Community Brunch at the East Dartmouth Community Centre!

2023/24 STRATEGIC PERFORMANCE REPORT

The Halifax Regional Municipality has released the [2023/24 Strategic Performance Report](#). This annual report uses strategic key performance indicators to provide a high-level analysis of advancement towards the municipality's priorities and outcomes in the [2021-2025 Strategic Priorities Plan](#).

The [Strategic Performance Snapshot](#) dashboard has also been updated with data for 2023/24.

District 6 resident Bryce visited us at City Hall and he aspires to be Mayor some day!





SUPPLEMENTARY FUNDING IN SUPPORT OF ARTS AND MUSIC IN SCHOOLS

Did you know, the Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM) contributes \$13 million every year to arts education in schools through the Supplementary Funding program? HRM is the only municipality in the country that contributes each year to supplementary funding for arts, music, and related programming through the Halifax Regional Centre for Education (HRCE). This is more than just a financial commitment—it's an investment in the future of our youth. By prioritizing arts education, HRM is fostering creativity, inclusivity, and the holistic development of its young citizens.

Why Arts and Music Matter for Youth

Arts and music education are foundational components of a well-rounded education. These programs develop critical life skills that extend far beyond the classroom. Studies have shown that students engaged in the arts:

1. **Develop Critical Thinking and Creativity:** Artistic activities challenge students to think outside the box, solve problems, and express themselves in innovative ways. These skills are essential for success in today's rapidly changing world.
2. **Improve Academic Performance:** Numerous studies link arts education to higher grades and improved performance in subjects like math, science, and literacy. Music, for instance, enhances cognitive abilities and spatial reasoning.
3. **Boost Mental Health and Emotional Well-Being:** Participation in the arts helps youth process emotions, build resilience, and reduce stress, fostering mental health during crucial developmental years.

The Power of Supplementary Funding

HRM's annual \$13 million investment ensures that the HRCE can offer high-quality arts and music programming. These funds directly enhance the educational experience by:

- **Ensuring Access and Equity:** Not all students can afford private music lessons or art classes. This funding

ensures that arts education is accessible to all, regardless of socioeconomic background.

- **Providing Resources and Equipment:** From musical instruments to art supplies, these programs rely on funding to provide the tools necessary for hands-on learning experiences.
- **Supporting Specialized Educators:** Dedicated art and music teachers bring expertise and passion that inspire students and nurture their talents.
- **Offering Extracurricular Opportunities:** Choirs, bands, theater productions, and art clubs enrich the school experience, allowing students to explore their interests and showcase their talents.

The Broader Impact on the Community

The benefits of this investment extend beyond the individual students who participate in these programs. A community that prioritizes arts education is one that cultivates empathy, cultural appreciation, and civic pride. Graduates of these programs often go on to contribute to local culture as artists, musicians, and creators, enriching HRM's vibrant arts scene.

Additionally, arts and music programs foster collaboration and teamwork, building connections among youth from diverse backgrounds. This sense of community is essential for the social cohesion and long-term vitality of HRM.

A Vision for the Future

HRM's commitment to supplementary funding for arts and music is a testament to the value it places on the holistic development of its youth. By recognizing the transformative power of arts education, the municipality is equipping its students with the tools to succeed academically, personally, and professionally.

As HRM continues to grow and evolve, this investment ensures that its young people remain at the heart of its success. Arts and music are not just nice-to-have programs; they are essential to building a brighter, more creative, and inclusive future for all.

For more information on how the supplementary fund is used, visit the [HRCE website](#).



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FRENCH LANGUAGE SERVICES FEEDBACK

The Halifax Regional Municipality is inviting Acadian and Francophone residents to share feedback on the *French Language Services Strategy*.

The Halifax Regional Municipality has the largest Acadian and Francophone community in Nova Scotia, with more than one third of French-speaking Nova Scotians residing in the municipality. It also accounts for more than half of the self-identified bilingual individuals in the province. In 2021, Halifax Regional Council approved the [French-Language Services Strategy](#), designed to strengthen the municipality's engagement with its Acadian and Francophone communities. This strategy includes 33 action items, divided into three phases, to ensure municipal services, programs and decisions meet the needs of French-speaking residents. The first phase of this strategy is complete.

You can attend an [online engagement session](#) Monday, February 3 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. or complete an online survey. The [online survey](#) can be completed in French or English and will be available until February 16.

CLIMATE COMMITMENT BADGES



The municipality's Environment & Climate Change team and the Ecology Action Centre have worked with local artists to create Climate Commitment Badges to inspire residents to set achievable goals for climate action.

Climate 101, Home Energy and Getting Around are the first of several badges that residents can earn by getting informed about these issues, choosing cleaner methods of transportation and exploring how we can make our homes more efficient and less reliant on fossil fuels.

Find out how to get involved on our [website](#).

SQUARE ROOTS PROGRAM

Square Roots offers free 10lb bags of local produce to those in need. You can sign up on my [Facebook page](#) the Monday before the pick-up is scheduled. Pick up can be scheduled for the Dartmouth North Library between 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. or the East Dartmouth Community Centre between 9 – 11 a.m. Below are the upcoming 2025 dates:

March 15

April 12

May 17

More dates will be announced as they are confirmed. Keep an eye on my Facebook page for any updates as dates are subject to change. You can find out more about the square roots program [here](#).



PARK LIGHTING STRATEGY

Regional Council has approved a new Park Lighting Strategy to add lighting in parks to increase safety and accessibility at night and minimizes environmental impact.

Park lighting plays an important role in improving accessibility, visibility, safety and active living in municipal green spaces across the region. Regional Council identified the need for a strategy address nighttime safety, enhance the use of facilities like sport courts and installations of public art.

For more information, read the [staff report](#).

HFX ALERT

hfxALERT
*Notifications
when you
need to know.*

HALIFAX

hfxALERT is the municipality's mass notification system for informing residents about emergencies and operations updates.

hfxALERT will send urgent and non-urgent notifications from Halifax Regional Police, Halifax Fire & Emergency's Emergency Management Division, as well as municipal winter parking ban notices. [Sign up for notifications](#) or [click here to download the mobile app](#).

STRANGER TABLES
BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE HAPPY CAMPER-WRITER

AT BURNSIDE BREWING COMPANY, 21 FRAZEE AVE. DARTMOUTH



STEP 1:
CHOOSE YOUR BOOK TO READ. CHOOSE FROM THE FOLLOWING FOUR BOOKS: ELEVEN HUSKIES (P. SCHOTT), 30 ANIMALS THAT MADE US SMARTER, THE BRICKWORKS (LUCY E.M BLACK), WASH DAY DIARIES.

STEP 2:
EMAIL TO REGISTER YOUR SEAT AT THE TABLE, AND PAY. PLEASE SPECIFY WHICH BOOK YOU WILL READ. THEHAPPYCAMPERWRITER@GMAIL.COM

STEP 3: ATTEND A 2.5 HOUR INTERACTIVE EXPERIENCE THEMED AROUND YOUR BOOK, WITH A SPECIAL TALK BY LOCAL WRITER, LEAH A. FINLAY

PARTICIPANTS WILL BE PROVIDED LIGHT FARE FROM HALIFAX CHARCUTERIE, AND PROVIDED A BOOKISH GIFT TO GO HOME WITH. DRINKS FROM BURNSIDE BREWING WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE.

**MARCH 09 2025
2PM-4:30PM
TICKETS: \$65/SEAT
SPACE IS LIMITED
EMAIL FOR TICKETS AND INFO**




Winter is Spirit's favourite season!



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PINK SHIRT DAY

Wear a pink shirt on February 26 to promote a more kind, inclusive world and raise awareness and funds for anti-bullying initiatives. You can find out more about Pink Shirt Day [here](#).

UPCOMING REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETINGS

There are three Regional Council meetings scheduled for February. Regional Council meetings are held on Tuesdays:

- February 4 (Special Meeting)
- February 11
- February 25

Check out the full schedule of upcoming meetings – including committees [here](#). Meeting agendas (including the specific start time of 10 a.m. or 1 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.

COMMUNITY COUNCIL SCHEDULE AND AGENDA

The Harbour East – Marine Drive Community Council normally meets on the first Thursday of each month, at 6:00 p.m. in the HEMDCC Meeting Space, Main Floor Alderney Gate, 60 Alderney Drive, Dartmouth. Meeting dates, time and location are subject to change. You can find agendas, report, and minutes [online](#).

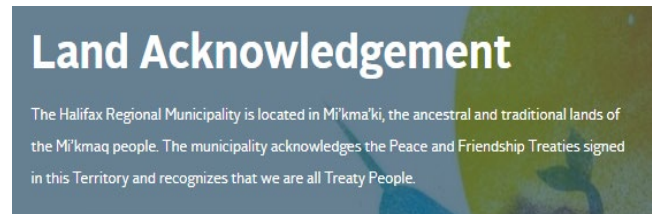
The HEMDCC webcast will be live on HRM’s [YouTube channel](#) and [agenda postings](#). Stay tuned for the video link to be shared closer to the next HEMDCC meeting, scheduled for Thursday, February 6.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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.

We also acknowledge the histories and legacies of the African Nova Scotian people and communities that have been here for more than 400 years.

In Nova Scotia, we are all Treaty People; with that comes roles and responsibilities.



DEPUTY MAYOR TONY MANCINI

COUNCILLOR, DISTRICT 6
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Currently serving on:
Harbour East Marine Drive Community Council
Regional Centre Community Council
Board of Police Commissioners
Environment & Sustainability Standing Committee
Executive Standing Committee
Halifax Regional Library Board
Shubenacadie Canal Commission