



COUNCILLOR JOHN YOUNG
DISTRICT 14 NEWSLETTER
Hammonds Plains - Upper Hammonds Plains - Lucasville - Middle & Upper Sackville

WELCOME APRIL

Welcome to our April e-newsletter!

Spring has sprung, and I’m happy to welcome you to our April newsletter!

This month we celebrate renewal and growth! With longer days and warmer weather finally here, we’ve got a fresh batch updates to share with you.

Get ready to enjoy everything April has to offer!

John

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APRIL MEETING DATES

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

Regional Council:

Tuesday, April 8 at 10 a.m.

Tuesday, April 15 at 10 a.m. **(If required)**

Tuesday, April 29 at 10 a.m.

North West Community Council: Monday,
April 14 at 6 p.m.

Standing Committees:

Appeals Standing Committee

- Thursday, April 10 at 10 a.m.

Audit & Finance Standing Committee

- Wednesday, April 16 at 10 a.m.

Special Events Advisory Committee

- TBD

DATES TO NOTE

April 1 is April Fool's Day

April 1 is Food Freedom Day

April 2 is World Autism Day

April 2 is Reconciliation Day

April 7 is World Health Day

April 9 is Vimy Ridge Day

April 13 is Palm Sunday

April 13 is the First Day of Passover

April 18 is Good Friday

April 20 is Easter Sunday

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April 21 is Easter Monday

April 22 is Earth Day

April 28 is National Day of Mourning

BUDGET 2025/26



Regional Council is scheduled to approve [the 2025/26 municipal budget](#) on Tuesday, April 8.

The municipal budget funds all costs associated with servicing a 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.

For more information on the 2025/26 municipal budget, visit halifax.ca/budget.



YOUTH CLIMATE ACTION FUND COMPETITION



Do you need work experience? Struggling to find meaningful employment? If you're between 16 and 24 years old you may be eligible to participate in the Youth WORX Program.

The Youth WORX Program (formerly called Youth Live) offers 24 weeks of paid job and life skill building for those having difficulty finding employment. While in our supportive environment, you'll gain hands-on work experience operating the [Youth WORX Café](#) in the Sackville Sports Stadium and delivering and repairing green carts on behalf of the municipality.

You'll also participate in job readiness workshops to improve your employability skills. At Youth Worx you will work to learn and learn to work!

Spring 2025 Information Sessions:

- **March 18 at 6 p.m.:** Dartmouth North Community Centre
- **March 25 at 6 p.m.:** Sackville Sports Stadium
- **March 26 at 6 p.m.:** North Preston Community Centre
- **April 10 at 4 p.m.:** Power House Youth Centre

CHECK BEFORE YOU BURN

Current Conditions

Burning is not allowed between midnight and 2 p.m.



Municipal fire risk general index

Low	Moderate	High	Very high	Extreme
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Index represented is the highest fire potential within the municipality today; it may not represent all areas - Please use the Burning Map for decisions on burning

The Halifax Regional Municipality has launched Before You Burn, a new online tool that provides residents and visitors with up-to-date information on whether burning is allowed in the Halifax region.

Before starting an open-air fire, check [Before You Burn](#) to stay informed and ensure compliance with municipal and provincial regulations.

WHY BYB?

- No more guesswork – this tool is specific to your civic address.



- Quick visual access to the burn status for the municipality (open, restricted, ban, etc.).
- More detail including the Halifax-specific fire risk index.
- Detailed descriptions of all burning types (campfires, brush burning, etc.).

Both the Province of Nova Scotia and the municipality have burning restrictions in effect. The new [Before You Burn](#) tool displays the burning restrictions in effect across the municipality by comparing municipal by-laws and provincial legislation with live data from the [provincial fire restrictions webpage](#).

Visit beforeyouburn.halifax.ca to see if burning is allowed.

Wildfire risk season and safe burning practices

Wildfire risk season in Nova Scotia runs from March 15 to Oct. 15, during which additional burning restrictions are in place. To protect our communities and prevent wildfires, always check [Before You Burn](#). If burning is permitted, follow these safety guidelines:

- Always check the daily burn restrictions before starting a fire to ensure it's safe and allowed.
- Never leave your fire unattended - unattended fires can spread quickly and become dangerous.
- Completely extinguish your fire - douse it with water, stir the ashes and repeat until everything is cool to the touch.

For more information on municipal fire restrictions, visit halifax.ca/safety-security/fire-emergency/fire-prevention-safety/open-air-burning.

HALIFAX WATER ANNUAL BUSINESS PLAN AND FIVE-YEAR STRATEGY APPROVED



Regional Council has approved the 2025/26 Annual Business Plan and five-year business strategy for Halifax Water.

Halifax Water has a mandate to own and operate water facilities and utilities for the purpose of providing water, wastewater and stormwater services to customers. The organization is governed by the Halifax Water Board of Commissioners, in compliance with the [Halifax Regional Water Commission Act](#) and [Administrative Order 2018-001-ADM \(Respecting the Halifax Regional Water Commission\)](#).

The five-year strategic plan establishes the organization's objectives and strategic initiatives from 2025 to 2030. The 2025/26 Annual Business Plan outlines a number of goals that have been established to meet these objectives.

An updated integrated resource plan is expected in 2027/28.

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

WALLACE LUCAS COMMUNITY CENTRE SOCIETY

Regional Council has approved a facility operating agreement with the Wallace Lucas Community Centre Society, a volunteer-run



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board, to transfer operations of the Wallace Lucas Community Centre (596 Lucasville Road, Lucasville).

The municipality's recreation service delivery is provided through a hybrid model – with some facilities being operated directly by the municipality, but the majority of facilities operated by volunteer not-for-profit organizations and community partners. This model is designed to facilitate equal access to meaningful recreation experiences.

The Wallace Lucas Community Centre, which has been in operation since the early 1980s, is an approximately 4,100 square foot facility, located adjacent to a municipal playground and sport court. The Centre offers a variety of spaces – including a 1,300 square foot multi-purpose room, 700 square foot classroom and licensed kitchen. The municipality is currently planning renovations to the facility, including an emergency generator and other energy efficiency upgrades.

Regular users of the facility include the Lucasville Community Association, Lucasville Education Committee Society and the Lucasville Greenway Society.

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

HALIFAX WANDERERS DND APPRECIATION GAME FLY PAST

Regional Council has given permission for the Royal Canadian Air Force to conduct a fly past over the Wanderers Grounds to mark the annual Department of National Defense (DND) appreciation game.

The annual event brings awareness and appreciation to the contributions of the Canadian Armed Forces and the DND. This event will also fundraise in support of military families through the Military Family Resource Centre.

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

NOVA SCOTIA WORKS SPRING JOB FAIR

I'm excited to share that the Nova Scotia Works Spring Job Fair is coming up on Tuesday, April 15 and Wednesday April 16 at the Mumford Road Annex (7071 Chebucto Road, Halifax)!

The goal of the job fair is to connect job seekers with employers who are ready to hire.



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This event is one of the largest job fairs in our region, bringing together over 120 employers offering thousands of job opportunities across a wide range of industries. Whether you're looking for your first job, a career change, or a fresh start, this job fair is a great place to explore new opportunities.

Dates: April 15 and April 16

Time: 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Location: 7071 Chebucto Road, Halifax, NS

More Info: www.HRMJobFair.ca

A Welcoming and Accessible Event

Ensuring everyone can participate is a priority. The job fair venue is fully accessible with door openers, level entrances, and a quiet/sensory room with professional staff. ASL, French, and Ukrainian interpreters will also be available on-site. Plus, free resume printing and easy access to public transit make attending even easier.

Transit

- **Bus # 9a, 9b, 22, 25, 415**
- **Stop:** 6390 (towards Armdale Rotary)
- **Stop:** 6408 (from Armdale Rotary)

Whether you're actively job searching or just exploring options, this job fair is a fantastic way to connect with employers and take the next step in your career!

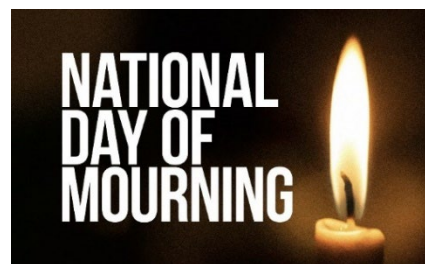
REFUGEE RIGHTS DAY

April 4 marks Refugee Rights Day, which is an opportunity to bring attention to the advances made in the protection of refugee rights in Canada as a result of the 1985 Singh Decision.

In this decision, the Supreme Court found that the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms protects the fundamental rights of refugees.

The Court decided that 'everyone' includes refugee claimants in the sentence: 'Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of the person and the right not to be deprived thereof except in accordance

NATIONAL DAY OF MOURNING



On April 28, Nova Scotians will join with Canadians across the nation, and over 100 countries

around the world, to recognize the National Day of Mourning.

This day has been designated as a time when workers, families, employers and others come together to remember those who have died or been injured at work.

According to recent statistics from the Association of Workers' Compensation Boards of Canada (AWCBC), there were just over 270,000 accepted claims for lost time due to a work-related injury or disease in Canada in 2019, and sadly, 925 workplace fatalities.

On this important day, we pause to remember those who have died or been injured on the job and take time to collectively renew our commitment to making safety a top priority in our individual workplaces.

Learn more about the National Day of Mourning [here](#).



MOBILE FOOD MARKET



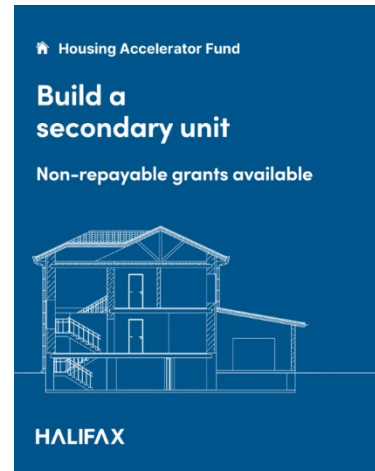
Regional Council has approved an increase in funding from \$75,000 to \$175,700 to the Mobile Food Market.

Rising costs, soaring rates of food insecurity and growing interest in community- based, welcoming and dignified ways of accessing food has resulted in an unprecedented demand for the services of the Mobile Food Market. Since 2019, there has been a dramatic increase in food distribution and has challenged the ability of the Mobile Food Market to respond to communities. Additional funding will be used to continue supporting a senior leadership role, an additional full-time employee, and for program funding.

Regional Council has also approved the continued support for two years until 2029 and directed the Chief Administrative Officer to work with the Mobile Food Market and other partners for the purchase of a new hybrid or electric vehicle.

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

SECOND UNIT INCENTIVE PROGRAM



HRM, with help from funding from the federal government's Housing Accelerator Fund, has introduced a new grant program to help property owners create more housing options.

The Second Unit Incentive Program offers financial grants to help offset costs associated with building new secondary units.

Eligible residents can receive up to \$12,000 to help reduce building expenses related to water and wastewater.

Applications will be open until June 1, 2026, or until funding is fully allocated. More information on how to apply can be found on HRM's website, <https://www.halifax.ca/about-halifax/regional-community-planning/housing-accelerator-fund/second-unit-incentive>

REGISTRATION





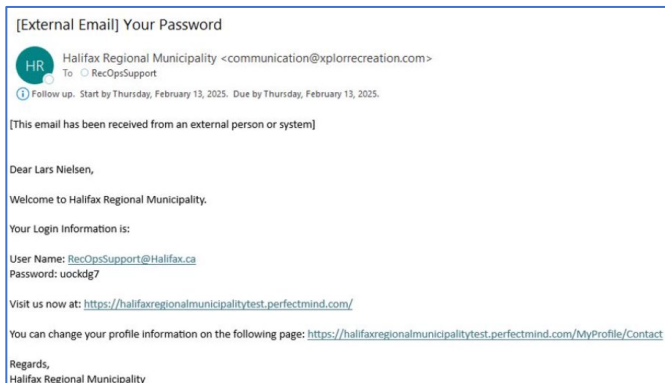
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A new online recreation software was launched on April 1. Summer camp registration, April 14, will use the new registration platform. The [/MyREC webpage](#) will remain the same but will link to the new system.

If you have an active facility membership at one of our municipal recreation centres, the Canada Games Centre, Cole Harbour Place, the St. Margaret's Centre or Zatzman Sportsplex, your client information will be transitioned to the new system. However, you will need to set up a **new password** and **link your payment information** to your new account if you wish to complete online transactions.

Members will be prompted to create their new password in an email coming from **communication@xplorrecreation.com**. It will look like this:



If you do not have an active facility membership at one of our municipal recreation centres, the Canada Games Centre, Cole Harbour Place, the St. Margaret's Centre or Zatzman Sportsplex, you will need [to create a new user profile](#)

LIVING LAKESHORES



This spring, the municipality is partnering with Saint Mary's University Halifax and the Ecology Action Centre to launch Living Lakeshores—a new initiative focused on protecting our region's freshwater

shorelines.

This project is a great opportunity for residents to get involved in preserving our natural environment. We're offering free Level 1 training sessions where you can learn hands-on skills in shoreline naturalization. After completing Level 1, you'll have the chance to take it even further with Level 2 training.

The first session took place on March 29 and another will take place May 2. We only have space for 20 people, so please register today!

Visit halifax.ca/biodiversity to learn more about Living Lakeshores and why education plays such a key role in protecting our shorelines.



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 college, 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](#).

RECREATION FUNDING ACCESS PROGRAM



Affordable access program
Learn about the Affordable Access Program

[The Funding Access Program](#) provides recreation opportunities to children, youth and adults in financial need.

Depending on the need, the cost of recreation programs could be 50% or 100% covered by the program.

To qualify, you must:

- Live in HRM
- Show proof of financial need

- Apply before registering for a program

All Halifax Recreation programs are eligible except private swim lessons, birthday parties, third-party programs, and rentals.

Proof of financial need must accompany your application. You must include the following as applicable to your application request.

- [Canada Child Benefit Statement](#) for children and youth under 18 years of age
- [Notice of Assessment](#) for individuals 18 years of age and over
 - [Sample Notice of Assessment](#)
- Letter from the [Department of Community Services](#)

If you are applying to the Affordable Access Program and would like to provide feedback, please fill out and submit our [Feedback Survey](#).

REC FEES CHANGING



Parks and Recreation fees are changing on April 1, 2025.

In 2022, changes to the Parks & Recreation fee structure for recreation programs, services, rentals, drop-ins and membership fees were announced. In accordance with the five-year fee structure changes, Parks & Recreation fees, including membership fees, will be increasing effective April 1, 2025.

The fee changes will also provide more clarity and predictability for residents:

- New user categories will be based on the age group and type of organization.



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- Consistent subsidization for fee categories. For example, the fee structure will ensure all youth programs across the municipality receive the same subsidy.
- Reduced risk of unexpected fee increases. The new fee structure accounts for inflation, helping to reduce unexpected and potentially significant fee increases.
- Predictable five-year review cycle. New requirement to review fee structure every five years.
- No user charge for Parks that are rented for public events that are open to the public, non-exclusive and free of charge.
- Overall standardization, consistency and transparency of fees across the municipality.

If you have any questions regarding how the Parks and Recreation fee changes will affect you, please email myREC@halifax.ca.

ROADS – ANNUAL SPRING WEIGHT

To minimize potential damage to municipal roads, the Halifax Regional Municipality introduced spring weight restrictions on Sunday, March 9. The weight restrictions will end on Sunday, April 27.

These restrictions are for heavy vehicles travelling on municipally maintained roads. Residents can view which roads are exempt from spring weight restrictions on a [map](#). Regular weight tolerances apply on exempt roads.

The municipality's spring weight restrictions are consistent with those of the Nova Scotia Department of Public Works. More details of

vehicle restrictions can be found [online](#) or view the list below.

Spring weight restrictions

The Halifax Regional Municipality has implemented regulations restricting the maximum vehicle and axle weights permitted on all Halifax maintained roads NOT referenced in Schedule "B".

Schedule "B"

1. WINDGATE DRIVE	FROM REVER BANK ROAD EASTERNLY 1.2 KM
2. BEAVER BANK ROAD	WINDGATE DRIVE TO SACKVILLE RD
3. BISSETT ROAD	COLE HARBOUR ROAD TO BISSETT LAKE ROAD
4. COSEBUOY ROAD	SACKVILLE DRIVE TO ROCKY LAKE DRIVE
5. COLE HARBOUR ROAD	CAIDWELL ROAD TO ROSS ROAD
6. COW BAY ROAD	MAIN ROAD TO CALDWELL ROAD
7. DUKE STREET	ROCKY LAKE DRIVE TO HIGHWAY 102
8. MAIN ROAD	BELMONT AVENUE TO COW BAY ROAD
9. ESTATES ROAD	GLINDOLE AVE SOUTHERLY TO END OF PAVEMENT
10. FOREST HILLS DRIVE	MAIN STREET TO COLE HARBOUR ROAD
11. GLENDALE AVENUE	COSEBUOY ROAD TO HIGHWAY 102
12. HAMMONDS PLAINS RD.	LARRY LITECK BOULEVARD TO HIGHWAY 103
13. LAKE MAJOR ROAD	IN TOTAL
14. LUCASVILLE ROAD	SACKVILLE DRIVE TO HEFLERS MILL
15. ROCKY LAKE DRIVE	DUKE STREET TO HIGHWAY 2
16. SACKVILLE DRIVE	HIGHWAY 102 TO PATTON ROAD IN UPPER SACKVILLE
17. ST. MARGARET'S BAY RD.	PROSPECT ROAD TO HIGHWAY 103 EXIT 4 IN TIMBERLEA
18. HIGHWAY 2	ROCKY LAKE DRIVE TO SUNNYVALE ROAD IN WELINGTON
19. MAIN STREET	RIDGECREST DRIVE TO LITTLE SALMON RIVER BRIDGE
20. HERRING COVE ROAD	OLD HALIFAX CITY BOUNDARY TO HERRING COVE
21. EVERGREEN PLACE	IN TOTAL
22. WINDSOR JUNCTION RD.	400 METRES NORTH FROM COSEBUOY ROAD
23. TIMBERLEA VILLAGE PKWY.	ST. MARGARET'S BAY ROAD TO HIGHWAY 103
24. ALL STREETS	IN THE FORMER CITY OF HALIFAX, DARTMOUTH & TOWN OF BEDFORD
25. HIGHWAY 3	FROM INGRAMPORT CONNECTOR TO HIGHWAY 103 EXIT 4
26. HIGHWAY 7	FROM HIGHWAY 107 TO BLUEBERRY ROAD (EAST END)
27. ROUTE 207	FROM ROSS ROAD TO MINVILLE ROAD
28. ROUTE 213	FROM HIGHWAY 103 TO HIGHWAY 3
29. MINVILLE ROAD	FROM HIGHWAY 7 TO ROUTE 207
30. CLARENCE AVENUE	FROM HOWARD AVENUE TO MACNAIR AVENUE
31. HOWARD AVENUE	FROM MAIN ROAD TO CLARENCE AVENUE
32. MORRIS AVENUE	FROM CLARENCE AVENUE TO END
33. MACHIAS AVENUE	FROM CLARENCE AVENUE TO END
34. TALLAHASSEE AVENUE	FROM CLARENCE AVENUE TO END

HALIFAX

STREAMING COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Regional Council is 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.

WILDFIRE SEASON

Wildfire season runs from March 15 to October 15. While [burning restrictions](#) are in effect year-round, additional restrictions are in effect during wildfire season.

[Fire safety](#) is key to protecting your home and community. Follow these tips every time you make an outdoor fire:



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- Always check the [daily burn restrictions](#) before starting a fire to ensure it's safe and allowed.
- Never leave your fire unattended - unattended fires can spread quickly and become dangerous.
- Completely extinguish your fire - douse it with water, stir the ashes and repeat until everything is cool to the touch.

Through a voluntary process, residents may register to receive a wildfire risk assessment for their property using the [FireSmart](#) standard. The FireSmart program is a national initiative designed to help communities and property owners reduce the risk of wildfires. It provides education, guidelines and practical actions to minimize fire hazards in homes, businesses and public spaces. To learn more about a FireSmart assessment, visit our [website](#).

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



Ghanaian Independence Day Flag Raising – March 6, 2025



Stranger Tables - March 9, 2025

COMMUNITY EVENTS





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Mayor Andy Fillmore, Councillor Young, Councillor Gillies with owner Roy of Roy's Restaurant



Lions Club Monument Unveiling March 25, 2025



Mayor Andy Fillmore, Councillor Young, Councillor Gillies with owner Roy of Roy's Restaurant



Grade 7 Teacher Mr. Sherry along with Councillor Young at the unveiling.



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Drumming to fight malaria at City Hall – March 19, 2025



Purple Day Flag Raising Supporting Epilepsy Awareness



Halifax Lancers Tour – March 11, 2025





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COUNCILLOR JOHN YOUNG



Councillor John Young

District 14
Hammonds Plains, Upper Hammonds
Plains Lucasville – Middle & Upper
Sackville

902.943.9241
john.young@halifax.ca
Halifax Regional Municipality
PO Box 1749 | Halifax, NS B3J 3A5

HALIFAX

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I currently serve on the following boards and committees along with Regional Council

- Northwest Community Council
- Transportation Standing Committee
- Active Transportation Standing Committee
- Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities
- African Descent Advisory Committee

I encourage you to reach out to 3-1-1 or me at any time with municipal questions or concerns.

INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE



“Words to Live By”

“He Who Does Not Know
One Thing Knows Another”

African Proverb

MAILING LIST

If you would like to have e-newsletters sent directly to your inbox, please contact my Council Constituency Coordinator Victoria Palmeter at 902-490-2012 or victoria.palmeter@halifax.ca