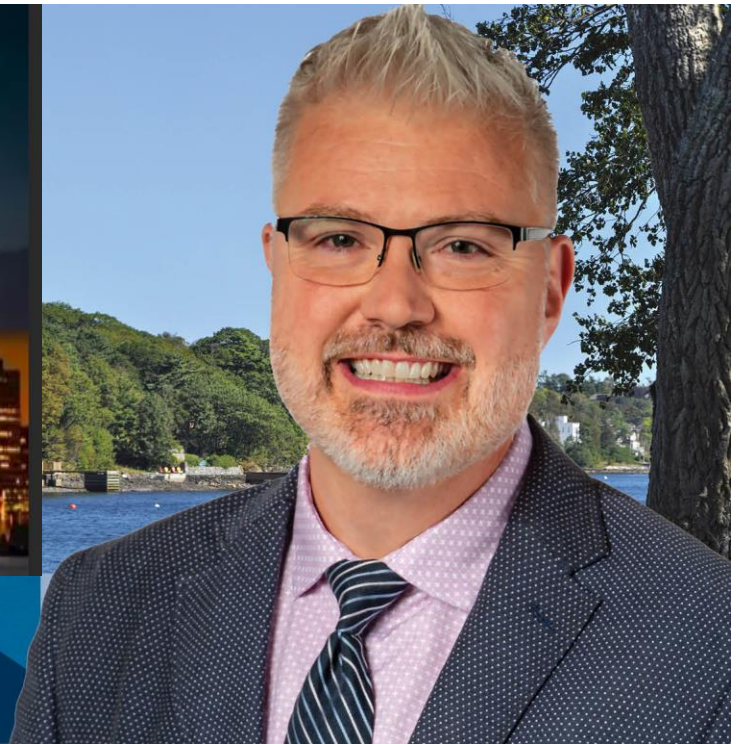




COUNCILLOR SHAWN CLEARY
 DISTRICT 9 ONLINE NEWS
 HALIFAX WEST ARMDALE



WELCOME AUGUST!



Happy Emancipation Day! Happy Halifax Dartmouth Natal Day! Happy National

Acadian Day! What a great way to celebrate our heritage and culture through events that bring us together to build a stronger, more united community. Have a great time with family and friends at Emancipation Day, Halifax Dartmouth Natal Day, the Buskers Festival and National Acadian Day events!

Keep reading for more information on the Independent Living Nova Scotia's 13th annual Art of Disability Festival, free aquafit classes, the Student Transit Pass Program, Surplus Land Affordable Housing Program and much, much more!

To discuss a municipal program or service, please contact me at:
Shawn.Cleary@halifax.ca or 902.579.6746.

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AUGUST MEETING DATES

Regional Council, Halifax & West Community Council and Regional Centre Community Council meetings will be held on:

Regional Council:

Tuesday, August 5 at 10 a.m.

Tuesday, August 19 at 10 a.m.

Halifax & West Community Council:

Tuesday, August 12 at 6 p.m.

Regional Centre Community Council:

Wednesday, August 27 at 6 p.m.

Standing Committees:

Audit & Finance Standing Committee

- Wednesday, August 20 at 10 a.m.

Transportation Advisory Committee

- Thursday, August 21 at 1 p.m.

Please confirm dates and times on our [municipal website](#) as they are subject to change.

DID YOU KNOW...

August is Children's Eye Health and Safety Awareness month, World Cancer Support month and Acadian Heritage month.

August 1 is International Beer Day

August 1 is World Scout Scraf Day

August 1 is World Day of Joy

August 4 is Halifax Dartmouth Natal Day

August 6 is International Day Physicians of the World for Peace

August 8 is International Rescue Cat Day

August 2025

August 8 is Happiness Happens Day

August 9 is International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples

August 9 is National Peacekeepers' Day

August 10 is United Nations World Day of Laziness

August 12 is International Youth Day

August 13 is International Left-Hander Day

August 15 is National Acadian Day

August 16 World Rum Day

August 19 is World Humanitarian Day

August 19 is World Photography Day

August 23 is International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and Its Abolition

August 26 is National Dog Day

August 29 is International Day Against Nuclear Tests

August 29 is World Video Game Day

August 30 is International Whale Shark Day

EMANCIPATION DAY



In 2021, Nova Scotia officially designated August 1 as Emancipation Day, a time to reflect and acknowledge our shared

history of the enslavement of people of African descent in Canada.

On August 1, 1834, the Slavery Abolition Act of 1833 became law, officially ending the practice of slavery across the British Empire.

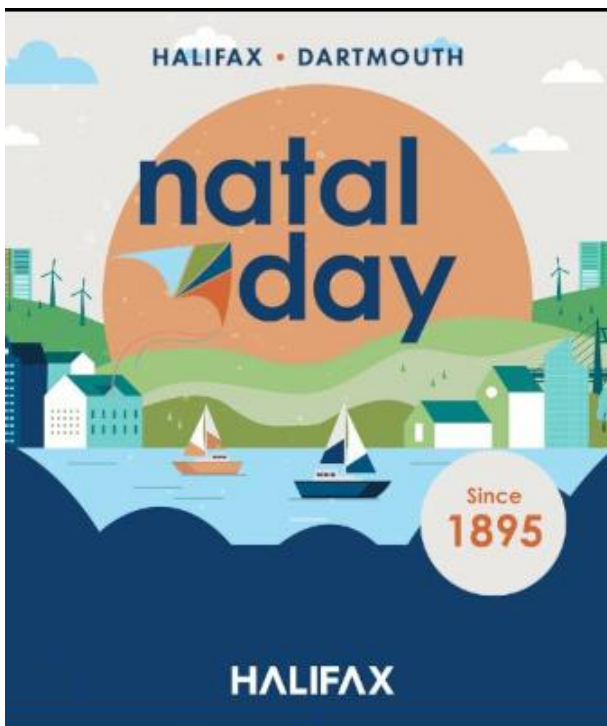


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HALIFAX WEST ARMDALE

Slavery was foundational in the systemic anti-Black racism that impacts people of African descent today. Recognizing Emancipation Day provides an opportunity to maintain ongoing meaningful dialogue around race relations and inclusion, and to celebrate the diverse heritage, culture and contributions of people of African descent across the region.

HALIFAX DARTMOUTH NATAL DAY



Happy 128th [Halifax Dartmouth Natal Day](#)!
So much fun planned for August 4 including the Natal Day Parade!

Click [here](#) for more details.

DARTMOUTH ROAD RACE



The Dartmouth Natal Day Road Races have been held in Dartmouth continuously since 1907, making it one of the oldest races in

North America. It consists of 2-mile and 6-mile events, run on a 2-mile course through historic downtown Dartmouth. The course starts and finishes in front of the 250-year-old Christ Church on Ochterloney Street and is followed by a reception and awards presentation.

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



BUSKERS FESTIVAL



[The Buskers Festival](#) provides entertainment on the Halifax and Dartmouth waterfronts from July 30 to August 4, 2025.



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With stages at the Halifax Seaport, Maritime Museum of the Atlantic, Sackville Landing, Foundation Wharf, and Dartmouth's Alderney Landing, the 39th annual Halifax Busker Festival provides locals and visitors alike with exciting and unique entertainment with six days of incredible performances.

HALIFAX SUMMER SERIES



Discover the exciting events happening in Halifax this summer!

The Halifax Regional Municipality is hosting and promoting a variety of activities through its Summer Series, running from June to early September.

Events include live music, family-friendly activities and fireworks. Many events are free for residents. Plan your summer today by clicking [here](#) for more information.

NATIONAL ACADIAN DAY



Acadian Day has been celebrated on August 15 since 1881. The [National Acadian Day Act](#) was passed by the Government of Canada in 2003. National Acadian Day is an opportunity to celebrate Acadian cultural vitality in Canada.

Click [here](#) to see a list of events throughout Atlantic Canada.

INDEPENDENT LIVING NOVA SCOTIA (ILNS) ART OF DISABILITY FESTIVAL

Independent Living Nova Scotia (ILNS) invites you to celebrate with them at their 13th Annual Art of Disability Festival! The Festival takes place on Saturday, August 9, in the Kenneth C. Rowe Hall and Chrysler Canada Pavilion on the 2nd floor of Pier 21. The event is open to the public from 11 AM - 4 PM.

This event highlights the artistic talents of



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Nova Scotians living with disabilities. Vendors onsite will showcase their products for sale: paintings, books, cards, candles, baked goods, and much more! This Festival strives to break down the barriers between art and accessibility and truly show the beauty of what people can offer in their own way.

Admission is **FREE** and open to everyone. For full event details, click [here](https://www.ilns.ca).



UPDATE ON MORRIS STREET EAST CONNECTION

At the Aug. 5 meeting of Regional Council, municipal staff will present recommendations for any potential changes to the Morris Street East Connection project.

This follows a [letter](#) from Premier Tim Houston raising concerns about the planned changes to Morris Street.

The project was also discussed at the July 8 Council meeting, where a motion was brought forward to explore alternative design options that would maintain two-way traffic on Morris Street and avoid impacts to Lower Water Street. Council voted 13–4 against the motion.

The Morris Street East Connection is part of the broader [Peninsula South Complete Streets project](#) and was originally approved in October 2024. The current design includes a two-way protected bike lane and would convert Morris Street to one-way eastbound for vehicles.

A full evaluation of the [Peninsula South Complete Streets project](#), including the Morris Street East Connection, is expected in two years.

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

Figure 1: Planning Context – Proposed Regional Centre AAA Bicycle Network, Integrated Mobility Plan



Current Context of Peninsula South Study Area Streets



CYCLING GUIDE APP



The Halifax Cycling Coalition is pleased to announce that the free [Cycling Guide app](#) for iPhones and Android phones is now available to serve Halifax Regional Municipality.

[Cycling Guide](#) is a mobile app that provides the best low-stress routes for people cycling. If you are not confident cycling without guidance or are not familiar with the best way to cycle to your destination, Cycling Guide can help you. Cycling Guide will serve well the 60% of Haligonians who would like to cycle more if they felt safe. And, by finding routes that connect the existing cycling infrastructure, it helps to realize more value from those investments. Bringing Cycling Guide to HRM was partially funded by an HRM Active Transportation Grant and one from HCi3.

Cycling Guide is available now in app stores. The app works really well both for the urban core and for suburban and rural districts.

FREE SWIMMING LESSONS AT RURAL BEACHES



The Halifax Regional Municipality is offering residents free swimming lessons at rural beaches and lakes this summer for children and youth.

The new weekly swim programs include general swimming lessons and lifesaving programs (including Bronze Cross and Workplace First Aid).

These programs compliment the municipality's annual swim lesson programs, which run at supervised beaches across the municipality. It also aligns with the recommendations of the [Rural Recreation Strategy](#).

All lessons are free and ages for each program differ. For more information, including program schedules and registration, click [here](#).



FREE AQUAFIT CLASSES



Free Aquafit classes are being offered this summer at the Halifax Central Common Pool. No need to sign up, just show up for some exercise in the sun.

Classes run Mondays-Thursdays from July 1 to August 28.

Mondays and Thursdays: 9-10 a.m.

Tuesdays and Wednesdays: 11 a.m.-12 p.m.

BEACH CLOSURES – WATER QUALITY



Lifeguard supervision and water quality testing will take place between

July 1 and Sept. 1.

Know your swimming limitations if you choose to swim in unsupervised bodies of water. Always swim with a buddy in supervised areas and adults should never leave children unsupervised in the water.

Beach status in 2025 is updated weekdays by 8 a.m. and by 9 a.m. on weekends (between July 1 and Sept. 1). Please note that beach closures due to suspected blue-green algae can happen at any time. The municipal website will be updated as needed regarding blue-green algae-related closures.

Water sample results are provided when they exceed Health Canada Guidelines for Recreational Water Quality. More information on testing processes and Health Canada guidelines are available here: [Water Testing at Supervised Beaches](#).

Click [here](#) for information on beach closures.

CLAM HARBOUR BEACH SANDCASTLE COMPETITION



The Clam Harbour Beach Sandcastle Competition will be held on Sunday, August 24 starting at 9 a.m. Now in its 45th year, this

popular event draws thousands to the Eastern Shore for a day of sand creations, sun and community fun.

First Aid personnel and provincial lifeguards will be on site. There is an on-site bus shuttle service to transport people to and from the



beach after the park opens at 9:00 a.m. Only registered service animals are permitted on the buses.

This event is rain or shine. Bring sunscreen, sun hat, sunglasses, insect repellent, water, snacks and appropriate beach attire. Various food vendors will be on-site. Cash only.

Click [here](#) for more information.

STUDENT TRANSIT PASS PROGRAM 2025/2026



Halifax Regional Council has directed the Chief Administrative Officer to work with the Province of Nova Scotia to extend the Student Transit Pass Pilot Program through the 2025-26 school year.

Students in grades seven to 12 who attend junior high and high schools within the Halifax Regional Centre for Education (HRCE) and Conseil scolaire acadien provincial (CSAP) catchment areas will continue to have access to unlimited travel on Halifax Transit buses, Access-A-Buses and ferries.

Regional Council has also approved expansion of the program to include registered homeschooled students in grades seven to 12 who live in the Halifax region. Homeschooled students will also receive a free Halifax Transit pass by presenting proof of homeschool registration at municipal Customer Contact Centres.

First launched in 2021, the continuation of the program has been made possible through a funding agreement between the Halifax Regional Municipality and the Province of Nova Scotia. Two surveys, conducted in fall 2024 and winter 2025, highlighted the program's positive impacts on student independence, confidence and increased transit usage, as reported by both students and parents.

To read the staff report, [click here](#).

SURPLUS LAND – AFFORDABLE HOUSING



6850 Bayers Road

The Halifax Regional Municipality, through the Housing Accelerator Fund, is launching the [Surplus Lands](#)

[for Affordable Housing Pilot Program](#). This program aims to make surplus municipal land



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HALIFAX WEST ARMDALE

available to non-profit organizations for the creation of vibrant, affordable housing communities.

The goal of this program is to reduce the upfront costs of non-profit housing construction by eliminating land acquisition costs, and providing land for one dollar to eligible, non-profit organizations. The pilot includes property at four locations:

- 48 Pinecrest Drive, Dartmouth
- 15 Laurelcrest Drive, Eastern Passage
- 18 Scotia Drive, Bedford
- 6850 Bayers Road, Halifax

As part of the pilot project, the municipality will be considering applications that meet current residential land use rules for each property (e.g., permitted number of units, building size and height, setbacks from property lines and street frontage.) Successful projects will offer new rental units at below average market rents and be ready to start construction by October 2026.

By supporting affordable units in a short timeframe, this pilot program is an investment in the vibrancy and affordability of our community's future.

Community engagement sessions:

Residents are invited to attend open-house events around the municipality to learn about the new program and ask questions about how this initiative will support inclusive, connected communities across the municipality.

- **Tuesday, August 12, 5 to 7 p.m.** at Bedford Public Library (15 Dartmouth Road, Bedford)

Whether you're a neighbour, a community advocate or simply curious – this is your opportunity to learn more about one way the municipality is addressing housing needs.

Learn more about the program and open house events by visiting our [website](#).

GET FLOOD READY



Floods happen in the HRM. Climate change is increasing the risk. With the new municipal flood maps and resources, you can learn:

- what flooding is;
- where it could flood;
- how the municipality is building resilience;
- how to get flood ready.

[Mapping is available](#) for the entire municipality to identify areas prone to floods from heavy rainfall, high water levels and storm surge.

To learn more, click [here](#).



2025 QUINPOOL ROAD MURAL FESTIVAL

Thank you to all the artists and businesses that participated in the 2025 Mural Festival. The following is a list of the locations and artists who contributed beautifully inspired creations to add vibrancy to Quinpool Road.

- Classic Physiotherapy – Molly Margaret: [@Mollymargaretart](https://www.instagram.com/Mollymargaretart)



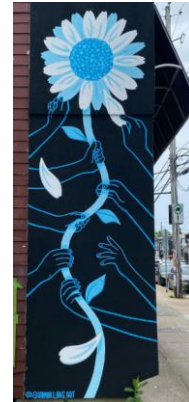
- West End Baptist Church – Craig Baltzer: [@baltzers_arts](https://www.instagram.com/baltzers_arts)



- Oxford Learning – Kristen DePalma: [@kdpletters](https://www.instagram.com/kdpletters)



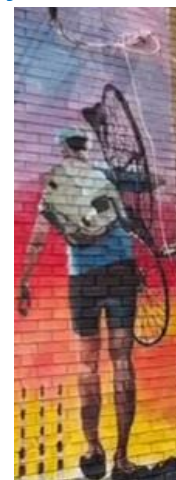
- Pleasures & Treasures – Shannon Long: [@shannon.long.art](https://www.instagram.com/shannon.long.art)



- Dilly Dally Café: Megan Oldhues: [@oldhues](https://www.instagram.com/oldhues)



- Freeman's Little New York – Jason Skinner: [@jason.a.m.skinner](https://www.instagram.com/jason.a.m.skinner)





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- Cheeky Neighbour Diner – Ghetto Socks: [@ghettosocks](#)



- Ikebana Shop – Anya Kaz: [@anyzkaz_art](#)



- Gaudet Optical – John McPartland: [@absen_archives](#)



- Organic Earth Market – Maddy Flipps: [@bucko.blue](#)



RECREATIONAL TRAILS GRANTS PROGRAM

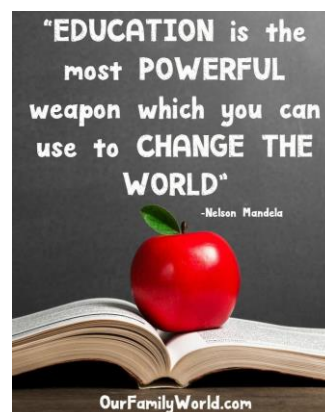


Applications have opened for the [Recreational Trails Capital Grants Program](#).

Applications are available [here](#) and will remain open until Monday, Sept. 1.

Funding through the Recreational Trails Capital Grants Programs supports community associations that operate and maintain recreational trails across the region. The program was established to support the municipality's recreational trail objectives, which are implemented in conjunction with community associations.

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL – THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4



Best wishes to all students starting the 2025/26 school year!

For more information on student transportation or what school serves your area, visit the

Halifax Regional Centre for Education's (HRCE) website by clicking [here](#).



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HALIFAX WEST ARMDALE

FIT WITH FIRE INFORMATION SESSION



Halifax Regional Fire and Emergency has added a third Fit with Fire information session.

This session is for women and gender-diverse folks and is a great opportunity to break a sweat in a workout led by real firefighters, speak with recruiters and see if firefighting could be your future career.

Date: Saturday, Sept. 6, 2025
Time: 9:30 - 11 a.m.
Location: 45 Knightsbridge Dr., Halifax

You don't need to be a fitness pro – all levels are welcome.

Spots are limited, so signing up is required. Please register [here](#).

YEEHAW! WILD WESTERN PARTY



Jellies, 6250 Quinpool Road, invites you to join in the fun at the August 22 YEEHAW! event.

Click [here](#) to get the lowdown on the hoedown.

HALIFAX WATER



Between 2019 and 2049, Halifax Water plans to invest about \$4 billion to upgrade infrastructure to ensure the continued delivery of high-quality water, wastewater and stormwater services to benefit customers and the environment.

To see a list of major Halifax Water projects, click [here](#).



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HALIFAX WEST ARMDALE

24-Hour Emergency Service

Call 902-420-9287 for water, sewer, and flooding emergencies.

Customer Care Centre

902-420-9287

Hours of Operation: Monday to Friday from 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM

Email: customercare@halifaxwater.ca
(please allow up to three business days for a reply)

Head Office Address

450 Cowie Hill Road
Halifax, NS

Mailing Address

Halifax Water
PO Box 8388, RPO CSC
Halifax, NS
B3K 5M1

Head Office Hours of Operation: Monday - Friday, 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

As a regulated public utility, [Halifax Water](#) must conduct business in accordance with the [Halifax Water Regulations](#) as approved by the [Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board](#) – now the [Nova Scotia Regulatory and Energy Boards Tribunal](#). These can be used to help you determine if we have applied an approved practice.

Halifax Water will respond to concerns and complaints about:

- Billing
- Metering and meter reading
- Application of standard charges
- Misuse of water resources, sanitary, or stormwater systems
- Halifax Water staff or service delivery

Formal complaints can be sent to:

Halifax Water
Complaints Department

P.O. Box 8388, RPO CSC
Halifax, NS B3K 5M1

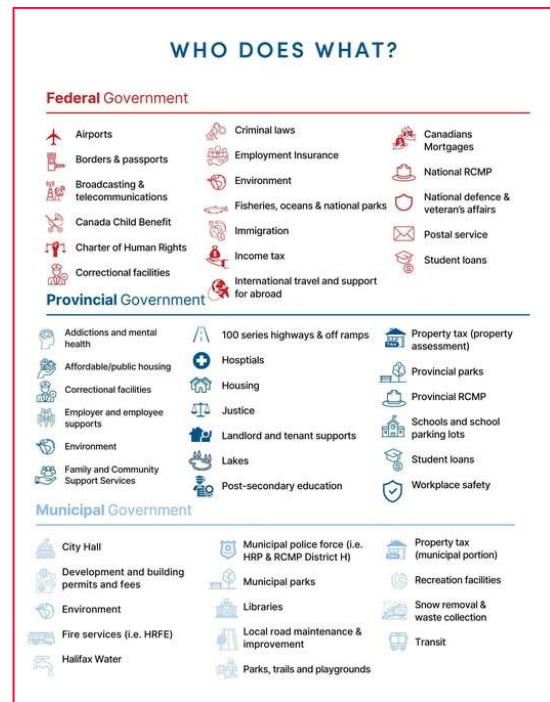
Email: customercare@halifaxwater.ca.

If you are not happy with Halifax Water's response, you may make an appeal to the [Dispute Resolution Officer](#) (DRO).

The Dispute Resolution Officer is an independent officer (not an employee of Halifax Water or the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board) who manages regulation-based customer issues.

PROVINCIAL AND FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVES

See the chart below for information on what level of government to contact for a variety of issues.



August 2025



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HALIFAX WEST ARMDALE

The following are the provincial Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs) and federal Members of Parliament (MPs) representing District 9 and surrounding areas.

PROVINCIAL MLAs



Krista Gallagher
Halifax Chebucto
208 Quinpool Road,
Suite 102
Halifax

Phone: [902-454-8365](tel:902-454-8365)

E-mail: KristaGallagherMLA@gmail.com



Suzy Hansen
Halifax Needham

Suite 1000 - 6080
Young St. Halifax

Phone: 902-455-7300

E-mail: suzyhalifaxneedham@gmail.com



Lisa Lachance
Halifax Citadel – Sable
Island

5516 Spring Garden
Road, Suite 304
Halifax

Phone: 902-220-3021

Fax: 902-700-4606

E-mail: LisaLachanceMLA@gmail.com



Brendan Maguire
Halifax Atlantic

349 Herring Cove
Road. Suite C.
Halifax

Phone: 902-444-0147

Fax: 902-444-8941

E-mail: brendan@brendanmaguire.ca



Rod Wilson
Halifax Armdale

2625 Joseph Howe
Drive, Suite 21
Halifax

Phone: [902-493-0221](tel:902-493-0221)

E-mail: info@rodwilsonmla.ca

FEDERAL MP's



Lena Metlege Diab
Halifax West

401-3845 Joseph Howe
Drive
Halifax

Phone: 902-426-2217

Fax: 902-426-8339



COUNCILLOR SHAWN CLEARY

HALIFAX WEST ARMDALE

SHANNON MIEDEMA



OVERVIEW

Political Affiliation:
Liberal

Constituency:
Halifax

Province / Territory:
Nova Scotia

Preferred Language:
English / French

Email: shannon.miedema@parl.gc.ca

COUNCILLOR SHAWN CLEARY

SHAWN CLEARY, MBA
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PO Box 1749
Halifax, Nova Scotia
Canada B3J 3A5

902.579.6746
Shawncleary.ca
halifax.ca 311

facebook.com/shawnclearyhalifax |

Chris Newson, Council Constituency Coordinator: 902.490.1562 | Chris.Newson@halifax.ca

I am a member of Halifax Regional Council, Halifax & West Community Council, Regional Centre Community Council and the following boards & committees:

- Audit and Finance Standing Committee
- Chain of Lakes Trail Association Board of Directors
- Halifax Partnership Board of Directors
- Transportation Standing Committee

August 2025

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.

“Summer’s lease hath
all too short a date.”

– WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

