



COUNCILLOR JANET STEELE

DISTRICT 12 NEWSLETTER

TIMBERLEA - BEECHVILLE - CLAYTON PARK - WEDGEWOOD

A MESSAGE FROM COUNCILLOR STEELE

Happy August, District 12!

Summer is in full swing and before we know it, it will be time to get ready for back to school!

There are lots of events happening in August. This month we will mark Emancipation Day, Natal Day and National Acadian Day – each an important opportunity to come together and celebrate our shared community.

We have some great community events taking place this month as well! I hope to see you at Beechville Days, beginning on Aug. 9, and Friends of Clayton Park Annual Community BBQ on Aug. 17. Further details can be found below in this newsletter.

Save the date! I will be hosting a District 12 Town Hall meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 17 from 7-8:30 p.m. at the Canada Games Centre. More details to follow in the coming weeks.

As always, please feel free to reach out to me anytime with your municipal questions or concerns.

COUNCILLOR DROP-IN

I will be hosting community drop-ins, which are a fantastic opportunity for me to connect with residents in a one-on-one format. I will advertise the date and location in this monthly E-Newsletter as well as on social media. The drop in date for August is:

Thursday, Aug. 21, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
Keshen Goodman Library, Meeting Room 2

I'm also hoping to host a drop in date at the new Beechville Lakeside Timberlea Community Centre once that is up and running. In the meantime, I'm happy to meet wherever is convenient to you.



Stay Informed, Stay Connected

Get the latest updates from
Councillor Janet Steele

Email smithem@halifax.ca to
subscribe to my monthly
e-newsletter



HALIFAX

halifax.ca | 311 | contactus@311.halifax.ca



COUNCILLOR JANET STEELE

TIMBERLEA - BEECHVILLE - CLAYTON PARK - WEDGEWOOD

BEECHVILLE, LAKESIDE, TIMBERLEA COMMUNITY CORNER

2025 Beechville Days

Come
celebrate 2025
Beechville
Days Aug. 9-10
at the
Beechville
Industrial Park!

Enjoy a day
packed with
fun activities
for kids and
adults alike—
all for free! There will be a barbecue, games, and a
spectacular fireworks display at night.

The festivities kick off on Saturday, Aug. 9, at 11
a.m. with the parade at Munroe Subdivision.



Traffic Light Installation on Timberlea Parkway

The work is tracking to be completed by early
August, weather permitting. Thanks for your
patience as this important and long-awaited piece of
infrastructure is installed.

Saint Margaret's Bay Road Sidewalk Update

Work addressing the winter erosion and sidewalk
deficiencies has been completed. The work that
remains is the pedestrian crossings, adding the
permanent safety railings and some minor
landscaping.

Munroe Subdivision Update

The work in Munroe Subdivision is almost finished.
Weather permitting, the project is expected to be
nearly complete by Beechville Day. If conditions
delay progress, the contractor may need to finish the
top layer of asphalt shortly after the event. Thank
you for your patience as we complete this necessary
work.

Blasting By-Law Review

At the June 10 Regional Council meeting, I
introduced a motion requesting a staff report on
Marketway Lane, Timberlea blasting issues,
including requesting a review of the adequacy of the
current blasting by-law to address carbon monoxide
seepage into homes and to identify the resources
required for a comprehensive review of the HRM
blasting by-law. This was to address the April 14
carbon monoxide detection home evacuation and
June 9 blasting resulting in damage to several
homes. The report is anticipated to come to
Regional Council by November.

Bay SailAble Program

It was an honour to join Council Hartling to present a
District Capital Fund cheque to representatives of
St. Margaret Sailing Club in support of the Club's
Bay SailAble program.





COUNCILLOR JANET STEELE

TIMBERLEA - BEECHVILLE - CLAYTON PARK - WEDGEWOOD

CLAYTON PARK, WEDGEWOOD COMMUNITY CORNER

Improving Cycling Connections in Clayton Park West

The Active Transportation team is working with WSP consultants to develop a Functional Plan (30% design) for proposed bike lanes along Parkland Drive and Regency Park Drive. This project supports the Regional Centre AAA Bike Network and will improve north-south cycling access to destinations like Belchers Marsh, Halifax West High, Glenbourne Park, and the Canada Games Centre.

As part of WSP's scope, public engagement included a June 18 open house at Keshen Goodman Library and an online survey, which closed July 9. Staff are now reviewing feedback, which will inform the draft plan alongside other key considerations such as:

- Pedestrian and cyclist safety
- Transit and vehicle traffic
- Parking and loading
- Trees and greenspace
- Emergency services and property needs

The draft Functional Plan is in development and is expected to go to Regional Council in November. The plan requires approval from Council and budget approval before moving to the design and construction phase.

Regency Park Drive Resurfacing

The Regency Park Drive resurfacing project is mostly finished. Final clean up of the area should be completed within the next week. Thank you for your patience while this work was completed.



I had the pleasure of attending the Parkland Clayton Park 2025 Garden Party

FRIENDS OF CLAYTON PARK SOCIETY

19th ANNUAL COMMUNITY BBQ

SUNDAY, 17 AUGUST 2025

VETERANS CORNER
AT 4 PM - 6 PM
On Langbrae and Parkland Drive

Free Drinks - Free Food - Live Music



COUNCILLOR JANET STEELE

TIMBERLEA - BEECHVILLE - CLAYTON PARK - WEDGEWOOD

EMANCIPATION DAY



Aug. 1 is Emancipation Day in Nova Scotia, a day to acknowledge the history and legacy of

slavery in Canada and to recognize the strength and contributions of people of African descent.

Emancipation Day marks the anniversary of Aug. 1, 1834, when the Slavery Abolition Act of 1833 came into effect, ending slavery in most parts of the British Empire, including Canada.

The day provides an opportunity to reflect on the ongoing impacts of systemic anti-Black racism, and to engage in meaningful conversations about equity, justice, and inclusion. It is also a time to honour the heritage, culture, and resilience of African Nova Scotian communities across the region.

RECREATIONAL TRAILS GRANTS PROGRAM

Applications are now open for our Recreational Trails Grants Program. Funding through the program supports community associations that operate and maintain recreational trails across the region.



Applications for 2026/27 are due Sept. 1, 2025. For details and the application forms, visit our [website](https://www.halifax.ca/recreational-trails-grants).

NATAL DAY CELEBRATIONS

Mark your calendars for the 128th annual Natal Day celebrations happening across the municipality! From fireworks and live music to parades and family-friendly activities, there's something for everyone.

Highlights include:

- Natal Day Parade: Monday, Aug. 4 | 10:30 a.m.–12 p.m.
- Fireworks on the Harbour: Saturday, Aug. 2 | 10 p.m. (*Rain date: Sunday, Aug. 3*)
- Lake Banook Fireworks: Monday, Aug. 4 | 9:30 p.m.
- Freedom Festival: Sunday, Aug. 3 | Dartmouth Ferry Terminal Park | 2–9:30 p.m.
- Dartmouth Natal Day Road Race: Monday, Aug. 4 | 8–9:30 a.m.
- Family Undersea Adventure Day: Monday, Aug. 4 | Sullivan's Pond | 12–4 p.m.
- Bridgewalk: Sunday, Aug. 3 | Macdonald Bridge | 2–4 p.m.
- Mike Cowie Band: Monday, Aug. 4 | Halifax Public Gardens | 2–4 p.m.

Bonus: Enjoy *free ferry service* on Saturday, Aug. 2. The Parker Street Food Bank will also be accepting donations at the Halifax and Alderney ferry terminals.

Visit our [website](https://www.halifax.ca/natal-day) for full event details and updates.





COUNCILLOR JANET STEELE

TIMBERLEA - BEECHVILLE - CLAYTON PARK - WEDGEWOOD

REDUCING NUISANCES FROM RODENTS AND WASTE

Every summer, the municipality receives an increase in rodent-related inquiries. While we can respond when rodents are on municipal property, near active construction sites, or as part of an unsightly property complaint, we are not able to intervene when the issue is on private property.



If you see a live or deceased rat in a municipal park, or a deceased rat in the right-of-way, call 311. If rodents are present on your own property, prompt action is important to avoid an infestation.

Reducing access to food and shelter is key. This includes clearing overgrown vegetation, storing garbage and compost properly, and sealing holes or cracks around the home.

To help reduce nuisances related to green carts:

- Wrap food waste in boxboard or newspaper
- Line your bin with a paper bag
- Empty your mini-bin daily
- Set your green cart out on every collection day
- Store food scraps in the freezer when possible
- Keep carts shaded and ventilated
- Ensure lids are secure and remove bungee cords on collection day
- Report damaged carts to 311

For additional information on properly managing waste, visit our [website](#). The NS Department of Natural Resources also provides information [here](#).



2025 pride parade with my council colleagues

NATIONAL ACADIAN DAY

Since 1881, Acadians have celebrated National Acadian Day on Aug. 15, a tradition established at the first National Acadian Convention in Memramcook, N.B.

The day is marked by community gatherings, music, and the *Tintamarre*, a festive procession where participants make noise as they walk together to celebrate Acadian identity and solidarity.

The Halifax region is home to the largest Acadian and Francophone population in Nova Scotia. In recognition of this important day, the municipality will host its **12th annual National Acadian Day flag raising ceremony**.

National Acadian Day is an opportunity to learn about the history and cultural contributions of Acadians, and to participate in celebrations taking place across the municipality.



HALIFAX

halifax.ca | 311 | contactus@311.halifax.ca



COUNCILLOR JANET STEELE

TIMBERLEA - BEECHVILLE - CLAYTON PARK - WEDGEWOOD

E-SCOOTER RULES

With more people using e-scooters across the municipality, it's important to know where and how they can be used.

Under By-law M-300 (the Micromobility By-law), as well as the Province of Nova Scotia's Motor Vehicle Act, here's what you need to know:



Where e-scooters are allowed:

- On roads with speed limits of 50 km/h or lower
- In bike lanes
- On multi-use pathways within streets

Where e-scooters are not allowed:

- On sidewalks
- On park trails, unless they are specifically signed as permitted
- At speeds over 25 km/h on roads or bike lanes
- At speeds over 15 km/h on multi-use pathways

Safety first:

- Riders must wear a helmet
- Riders must be at least 14 years old

E-scooters may also be used on private property with permission from the property owner.

By following the rules, we can all help ensure micromobility options like e-scooters continue to be a safe and accessible part of how we move through our communities.

CAO CATHIE O'TOOLE ANNOUNCES INTENTION TO RETIRE

On July 9, Cathie O'Toole announced her intention to retire as Chief Administrative Officer of the Halifax Regional Municipality after over 25 years of public service.



Ms. O'Toole, who has served as Chief Administrative Officer since January 2023, will continue in her role into October and assist Mayor and Regional Council in the development of a transition plan for the municipality. I have only had the privilege of working with Cathie for a short time, but I can tell you that she is a very competent and dedicated public servant that will be greatly missed by Council and HRM employees.

HELP SHAPE ORGANIC WASTE MANAGEMENT

Want to help shape how organic waste is managed in the Halifax Regional Municipality?

AIM HCR (Harbour City Renewables), operator of the Halifax Organics Management Facility, is looking for up to four volunteer public members to join its new Community Liaison Committee (CLC).

As a CLC member, you'll:

- represent residents of the Halifax Regional Municipality;
- discuss facility operations, environmental monitoring and more; and
- help address community concerns.

Meetings are held twice a year on-site or virtually.

Interested? Contact:

RaggedLakeCLC@aimgroup.ca



COUNCILLOR JANET STEELE

TIMBERLEA - BEECHVILLE - CLAYTON PARK - WEDGEWOOD

UPDATE ON STRONG MAYOR POWERS MOTION



At the July 10 meeting, Regional Council voted in favour of a motion requesting consultation from the Province of Nova Scotia if it considers introducing strong mayor powers in Halifax or other municipalities.

Council also directed the Chief Administrative Officer to prepare a staff report on how strong mayor powers have been implemented in other Canadian jurisdictions and what lessons may apply locally.

Strong mayor powers vary depending on provincial legislation but could include authority over hiring senior staff, preparing budgets, or vetoing council decisions. How such powers would apply in Nova Scotia would be determined by the province.


I voted in favour of the motion to request that the Province consult with residents and municipalities before bringing in legislation on Strong Mayor Power. I also supported the request for a staff report on how strong mayor power is working in other jurisdictions.

I hope District 12 residents will stay informed about this important issue. To watch the Council debate on strong mayor powers, click [here](#). The debate starts at 3:24:11.

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR KRISHNA CONSCIOUSNESS
FOUNDER-ACARYA HIS DIVINE GRACE A.C. BHAKTIVEDANTA SWAMI PRABHUPADA



JANMASHTAMI CELEBRATION
16TH AUGUST 2025, SATURDAY
PROUD COMMUNITY PARTNER



Councillor Janet Steele
Halifax Regional Municipality
District 12
Timberlea - Beechville - Clayton
Park - Wedgewood

VENUE: ISKCON HALIFAX NEW TEMPLE
29 WESTWOOD BLVD, UPPER TANTALLON, NS B3Z 1H4
5 PM - 1 AM

HARE KRISHNA HARE KRISHNA KRISHNA KRISHNA HARE HARE, HARE RAMA HARE RAMA RAMA RAMA HARE HARE

PACK IN AND PACK OUT

When enjoying our beautiful parks, trails, and beaches, remember to pack-in and pack-out. That means bringing everything you need, and taking it all with you when you leave.

Keeping our shared spaces clean helps protect nature and ensures everyone can enjoy them. Let's all do our part to keep Halifax green and clean.



HALIFAX

halifax.ca | 311 | contactus@311.halifax.ca



COUNCILLOR JANET STEELE

TIMBERLEA - BEECHVILLE - CLAYTON PARK - WEDGEWOOD

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.

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

WASTE COLLECTION TIMING RULES

Waste can be placed curbside no earlier than 7 p.m. the evening before the scheduled collection day and no later than 7 a.m. the morning of the scheduled collection day. Remove any materials not collected by 9 p.m. on the scheduled collection day.



Call 311 for collection issues.

HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL SUPPORTS NEW COMMUNITY MEDIATION PILOT



Halifax Regional Council has approved funding and directed staff to collaborate with the United Way Maritimes to create and implement a Community Mediation pilot program. This initiative will provide voluntary, confidential, and impartial mediation services to residents experiencing interpersonal disputes across multiple neighbourhoods in the municipality.

The pilot program aims to improve community safety and cohesion by offering no-cost mediation and conflict coaching in accessible, neutral locations, including virtual options. The program will focus on common neighbourhood conflicts such as noise, parking, property boundaries, and nuisance issues, while excluding legal and certain sensitive matters.

This partnership leverages United Way Maritimes' extensive community presence and expertise to deliver services in diverse urban and rural areas including Spryfield, Fairview, Dartmouth North, and East Preston. A project coordinator will be hired to oversee program design and delivery, with referral pathways established through municipal staff, community partners, and self-referrals.

This program supports safer, stronger communities by offering a helpful way to solve disputes without legal action.

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



COUNCILLOR JANET STEELE

TIMBERLEA - BEECHVILLE - CLAYTON PARK - WEDGEWOOD



Tamil Summer Festival at DeWolf Park

COUNCILLOR SLOW DOWN SIGNS

If you are interested in a slow-down sign for your lawn/personal property, please email me at janet.steele@halifax.ca. These signs are made of plastic and come with the lawn stakes for installation.

Please be informed that the District 12 "Please Drive Slowly" signs are NOT a traffic calming measure, and they have no authority to direct or slow down traffic, or make children safer on the streets.



311 MUNICIPAL SERVICES AND INFORMATION

For routine municipal matters such as reporting potholes, requesting traffic calming assessments, garbage collection and much more, please call 311 or email contactus@311.halifax.ca. Please feel free to copy me on your email if this is not a routine matter.

When you call 311, your request is logged and tracked to ensure follow up and action by the appropriate department. Please be sure to advise the agent if you would like to receive a follow up from staff regarding your service request.

For more information about how to get in touch, please visit our [website](#).





COUNCILLOR JANET STEELE

TIMBERLEA - BEECHVILLE - CLAYTON PARK - WEDGEWOOD

REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETINGS

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

- August 5
- August 7 (if required)
- August 19

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 Halifax and West Community Council normally meets once a month on Tuesdays at 6 p.m. in Council Chambers. Meeting dates, time and location are subject to change. You can find agendas, report, and minutes [online](#).

Stay tuned for the video link to be shared closer to the next Halifax and West meeting, scheduled for August 12.

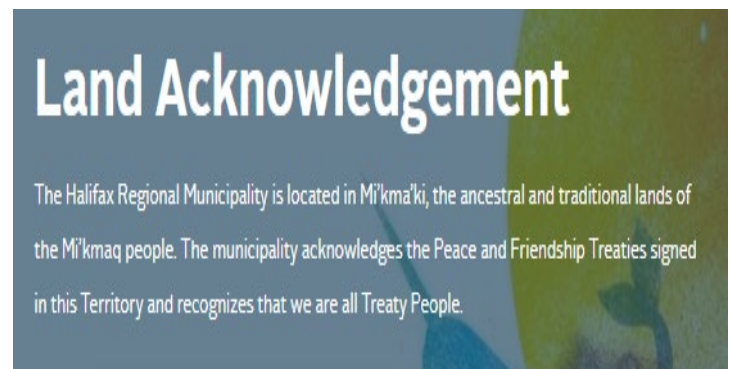
Currently serving on:

Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee
Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee
Appeals Standing Committee
Halifax and West Community Council
Halifax Water Board of Commissioners
Canada Games Centre Board of Directors
Otter Lake Community Monitoring Committee

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.

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



AFRICAN NOVA SCOTIAN LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Halifax Regional Municipality recognizes that African Nova Scotians are a distinct founding people in Nova Scotia who have been a key part of the province's culture and history.



COUNCILLOR JANET STEELE
DISTRICT 12
TIMBERLEA-BEECHVILLE-CLAYTON
PARK-WEDGEWOOD
(902)-471-3123
Janet.Steele@halifax.ca
PO BOX 1749
HALIFAX, NS B3J 3A5
www.halifax.ca