



COUNCILLOR BECKY KENT
DISTRICT 3 NEWSLETTER
DARTMOUTH SOUTH - WOODSIDE - EASTERN PASSAGE

MESSAGE FROM BECKY

It's the beginning of a new school year – hope all of our students and teachers had a great first week back!

I had a lovely summer, welcoming my new grandbaby Francis, taking some time away with family, and having lots of opportunities to attend community events and meet with residents across the district. Now, we are back to the routines of fall. In this newsletter, you'll find out more about fire safety measures, new grant programs, upcoming events and much more.

As always, feel free to reach out with any of your municipal questions or concerns!

CALDWELL ROAD TRAFFIC DELAY

Caldwell Road, between Hines Road and Atholea Drive will have stop and go traffic to facilitate road repairs Monday, Sept. 8 to Thursday, Sept. 11 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m.

**DARTMOUTH HERITAGE
CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

The Halifax Regional Municipality is inviting residents to share feedback on the proposed Heritage Conservation District for Downtown Dartmouth.

Downtown Dartmouth is home to some of Nova Scotia's most unique heritage buildings, sites and stories. A Heritage Conservation District helps preserve our unique past while supporting future growth.

Attend our public engagement session Thursday Oct. 2 from 4 – 7 p.m. at Alderney Landing or take the survey here to provide your feedback.

**EASTERN PASSAGE
ISLANDERS
LEARN TO PLAY**

WE WILL BE OFFERING LEARN TO
PLAY FOR THE 2026 SEASON
for girls ages 6-8 years old
EMAIL INTEREST TO -
EPISLANDERS@HOTMAIL.COM

WE WILL BE CREATING AN EMAIL LIST FOR
MORE INFORMATION CLOSER TO THE
SEASON START



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BACK TO SCHOOL ROAD SAFETY



As thousands of students, staff and faculty return to schools this week, the Halifax Regional Municipality is reminding residents to exercise additional caution on the road. Whether you're driving, walking, cycling or taking transit, we all share the responsibility of keeping our streets safe.

School bus safety

Drivers and cyclists must stop when approaching a school bus with flashing red lights. This applies regardless of the direction of travel or the number of lanes. It is illegal to pass a school bus when its red lights are flashing. These signals ensure students can safely board or exit the bus and cross the road if needed.

School zones

School zone speed limits are in effect whenever children are present. This applies not only during school hours. Slow down and stay alert in these areas.

Intersection and crosswalk safety

Most fatal and injury-causing traffic collisions in the Halifax region happen at intersections. All road users are reminded that crosswalks exist at all intersections, whether they are marked or unmarked.

Reminders for drivers:

- Drivers must yield to pedestrians waiting to cross or when they're already in a crosswalk.
- Drivers turning at signalized intersections must yield to pedestrians lawfully in the crosswalk. Pedestrians continue to have

the right of way as they finish their crossing.

Reminders for pedestrians:

- At marked signalized intersections and crosswalks, pedestrians should only cross when the "walk" signal is displayed.
- At marked crosswalks with signals or beacons, pedestrians must activate the flashing lights where available. Be sure to press the button if one is present.
- At unmarked or unsignalized crosswalks, wait for a safe gap in traffic or for vehicles in both directions to stop completely before entering the street.

Reminders for cyclists and e-scooter users:

- Cyclists and e-scooter users that decide to cross the street using pedestrian crosswalks shall walk their bicycle or scooter through the crosswalk.
- Bicycles and e-scooters are not to be operated on sidewalks.

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

Parking enforcement

With increased traffic during the school season, the municipality is stepping up parking enforcement to ensure on-street parking is used appropriately. Drivers are reminded to obey all posted traffic and parking signs in and around school zones to help keep children safe and traffic flowing smoothly.

Plan ahead to avoid delays and fines. For parking permits, mobile payment options and maps, visit our [website](#).



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WEEKLY GREEN CART COLLECTIONS ENDING

Reminder! Weekly Green Cart collection ends on Sept. 12. You will go back to your regular scheduled bi-weekly pick up after that point, please check out the What Goes Where app to confirm when green carts will be collected in your area.

FILMING NOTICE

The Trades Season 3 will be filming around Woodside, Mount Hope, and at 144 Ilsley Avenue between Sept. 9 – Oct. 16. During filming, you may experience brief traffic delays and possible street closures, film equipment and crew vehicles in the vicinity, temporary signage and traffic control personnel and increased activity in the filming areas. Questions or concerns can be directed to [Rob Fletcher](#) or [Ryan Rogerson](#).



Shearwater Aviation Museum Re-opening event!

WOODS RESTRICTIONS LIFTED

The Halifax Regional Municipality is advising residents that the Province of Nova Scotia has lifted restrictions on access to woods within the Halifax region as part of a partial lifting of the [Aug. 5, 2025 Woods Restrictions Proclamation](#).

The provincial burn ban remains in place for the entire province until Oct. 15 or until otherwise advised by the Province of Nova Scotia. The municipality is asking residents to continue to exercise caution in wooded areas and to report any signs of fire to 911.

The municipality is in the process of removing barricades and signage at impacted municipal parks, trails and greenspaces.

More information on the lifting of the provincial notice of restricting travel and activities in the woods is available in the Province of Nova Scotia's [news release](#).

MASTER COMPOSTER RECYCLER COURSE

The Master Composter Recycler course begins again next month.

Master Composter Recycler (MCR) is a free five-week online education program offered yearly. This is an online course with five education sessions including in-person facility tours. Participants become more knowledgeable about how waste is managed in the Halifax Region from collection to processing and learn how to reduce waste through backyard composting and other at-home solutions. Participation is free and interested residents can sign up and find more information on our [website](#).



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FISHERMAN'S COVE BOARD

Are you interested in joining the Fisherman's Cove Development Association (FCDA) board of directors?

FCDA's Board of Directors is comprised of representatives who are passionate about the growth and prosperity of Fisherman's Cove and who are committed to developing a vibrant and sustainable waterfront marketplace, offering visitors and locals one-of-a-kind finds and unforgettable experiences.

Directors are expected to attend the Annual General Meeting, as well as monthly meetings at the Heritage Centre. Virtual meetings and email communications occur as required. Directors are appointed for a one-year term, resigning just prior to the Annual General Meeting where they can be re-appointed. Please note that Directors are volunteers and unpaid.

The Board is also seeking a Youth Advisor to help shape the future of Fisherman's Cove. The role, intended for an individual aged 16-25, will provide the Board with valuable insights to inform decision-making.

If you are interested in joining FCDA's Board of Directors, please submit your resume and cover letter to office@fishermanscove.ns.ca expressing why the role is of interest to you and how your experience can help achieve FCDA's goals. Expressions of interest must be received by Sept. 15. Questions relating to the Board may be directed to its Chair, Lloyd Jackson, lloydgjackson50@gmail.com.



SEASIDE SUNSET MARKET

Check out Fisherman's Cove on Sept. 18 from 6 to 9 p.m. for an unforgettable evening of shopping, strolling, and sunset vibes by the ocean.

This outdoor market will feature a curated mix of local makers, artists, foodies, creators, and more! All set against the backdrop of a glowing seaside sunset.

To find out more, check out their [facebook page](#).

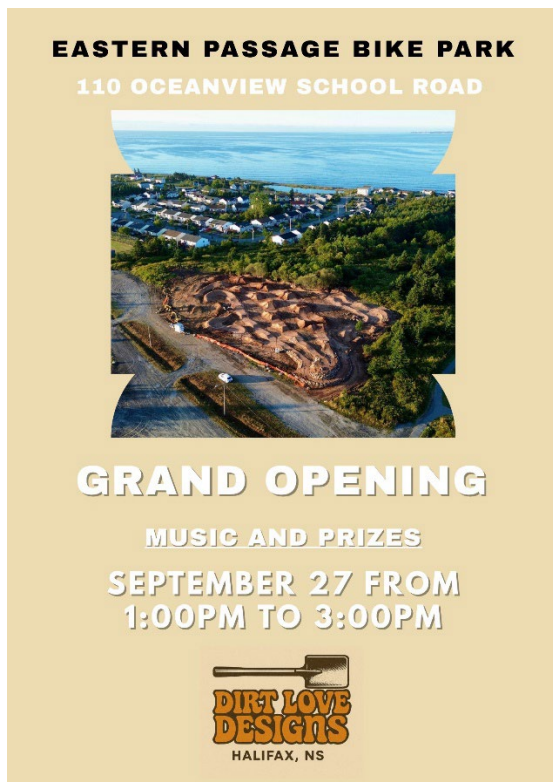


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GENDER EQUITY WEEK

Gender Equity Week (Sept. 22-26) is an opportunity to celebrate the valuable contributions of women and gender-diverse communities while reaffirming our commitment to advancing gender equality within our organization and region. Gender equality means that all gender identities have equal rights and opportunities. While progress has been made, including electing a predominantly female Regional Council for the first time, there is still work to do.



WOODLAWN LIBRARY FREE SYMPHONY CONCERT

Stop by the Woodlawn Public Library Saturday, September 20 from 2:30 – 3:30 p.m. for a Symphony Nova Scotia season kick off. The woodwind ensemble will be playing the classic symphonic tale of *Peter and the Wolf* for free in this accessible show for all ages!

COMMUNITY BIKE RIDE

Join us for the Annual Community Bike Ride on Sept. 25 at 3 p.m. beginning at Graham's Grove to the Shubie Pump Track.

The ride is 3 – 3.5 km and will end at 4:30 p.m. with a barbecue and activities at Graham's Grove. To learn more about cycling in the municipality, check out our [website](#).

OUTDOOR COMMUNITY RINK PROGRAM

The Halifax Regional Municipality is advising residents that applications have opened for the [Outdoor Community Rink Program](#).

This program provides non-profit organizations the opportunity to operate a community rink on municipally owned property. The municipality offers grants of up to \$1,000 to a minimum of seven successful applicants to assist them in covering the insurance cost associated with the operation of the community rink.

The application period opened on Monday, Sept. 1 and will remain open until Friday, Oct. 3.

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

HALIFAX WATER GENERAL RATE APPLICATION

Halifax Water have applied for an increase in water, wastewater and stormwater rates to combat the significant operating deficits due to increased inflation, rising interest rates, a depleted reserve fund and aging infrastructure.

You can find out more [here](#).



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WATER CONSERVATION

Water levels at Lake Major and Pockwock Lake continue to be lower than normal. Despite recent rain, much more precipitation is needed to return to normal levels. Since implementing the voluntary conservation measures on August 5, Halifax Water has not seen a significant decrease in demand. Without significant precipitation and increased conservation measures, these water levels will continue to lower and mandatory conservation measures will be required.

To conserve water, Halifax Water is requesting that all customers and those who live or work within a building serviced by Halifax Water follow voluntary water conservation measures until further notice. By reducing our water usage, we can help ease the demand on our lakes/source water and reduce or delay the need for mandatory water conservation measures:

- **If it's yellow, let it mellow.** Depending on the efficiency of your toilet, each flush uses between 6 to 26 litres of water.
- **Shorten your showers.** Cut back on the frequency and length of showers.
- **Turn off the tap when not in use.** Turn the tap off when brushing your teeth, shaving, washing your face etc.
- **Wash only full loads of laundry and dishes.**

Limit activities that use excess water, such as:

- Watering lawns and gardens.
- Washing vehicles.
- Filling pools.

Visit their [website](#) for a full list of ways to conserve water.

TRANSIT PLAN FEEDBACK

The Halifax Regional Municipality is inviting residents to help shape the future of Halifax Transit by sharing feedback on a new transit plan. You can share your ideas about which bus routes that need more frequent service, new and modified routes designed to support our growing municipality, your travel habits and the routes you take and long term transit initiatives by reviewing the proposed plan details and completing a survey available [here](#). The survey will close on Sunday, Sept. 28. Residents will also be able to provide feedback through various in-person engagement sessions which will be advertised on our [website](#).



ENHANCED SECURITY AT CITY HALL

Enhanced security screenings are now in place at Halifax City Hall. All visitors will be required to present identification, place any bags or loose items in a bin for X-ray screening and walk through a metal detector before entering the building. These updates align with safety practices in place at other municipal buildings and are part of our efforts to create a safe space for everyone. See our [website](#) for details.



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PROVINCIAL REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN

The Province recently announced their Regional Transportation Plan including over a dozen proposed initiatives - improvements to highways, expanded public transit options, and smarter planning to handle growth. One of the proposed initiatives will be a road corridors such as the Shearwater connectors.

The plan was developed through consultations with local governments, Indigenous partners, industry, and residents, and sets the direction for the next two decades of growth. For more details of the full NS Joint Regional Transportation Plan, check out their [website](#).

PERHA CONCERT AND MOVIE IN THE PARK



Join PEHRA for a free concert and movie in the Park on Saturday, Sept. 13. The Concert in the Park with the Dartmouth Concert Band begins at 2 p.m. and the movie begins at 7 p.m. Check out their

[Facebook page](#) for more information.

FIRE SAFETY

After a particularly dry and hot summer season, we are at a high risk for wildfires. Check out our [website](#) for more information on fire prevention and safety and make sure to check out [before you burn](#). It's also important to understand the difference between preparing for an evacuation and a mandatory evacuation so you can act quickly and stay safe during emergencies, such as wildfires:

Preparing for evacuation: You are advised to prepare now in case conditions worsen.

- Gather important documents, medications, and emergency supplies
- Pack a go bag with your essentials (clothing, food, water, chargers)
- Plan where you'll go if asked to leave
- Keep the gas tank of your vehicle at least half full
- Stay informed through official updates

Mandatory evacuation: You are required to leave immediately.

- It is not safe to stay. Emergency services may not be able to reach you.
- Do not delay, leave as soon as possible
- Follow all instructions from authorities, emergency responders and ground search and rescue.
- Grab your go bag and follow official evacuation routes.
- Report to the designated reception centre and register yourself, plus any family members or others who have evacuated with you.
- Let loved ones know you're safe once evacuated

Learn more about preparing for wildfires and how to stay safe [here](#).



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WOODSIDE FERRY AND BRIDGE TERMINAL UPGRADES

The municipality has completed a series of upgrades at the Woodside Ferry Terminal and the Bridge Terminal to improve the safety, comfort, and accessibility of both terminals for Halifax Transit riders and pedestrians. The ferry terminal received a new concrete platform and bus bays behind the curb, tactile directional indicators for accessibility, new signage, repaving of the bus loop and upgraded pedestrian walkways – including a sidewalk connection from the upper and lower parking lots. The bus loop at the Dartmouth Bridge Terminal has also been repaved.

HRP IMPAIRED DRIVING STATS

Halifax Regional Police charged 37 drivers with impaired related offences during the month of July.

Of the 37 drivers, 17 were charged with impaired operation of a conveyance by alcohol, six were charged with impaired operation of a conveyance by a drug and 14 drivers were issued driving suspensions.

Of the 37 drivers, 13 calls were received from people who suspected impaired driving. We thank the public for reporting suspected impaired drivers and encourage anyone to call 911 immediately if they suspect someone is driving impaired.

HALIFACT UPDATE

Learn more about environmental initiatives in the municipality by checking out our latest [HalifACT update](#).



Jason Price

Sept. 20th, 2025
from 8:30pm – 11:30pm
The Buffalo Club ~ Eastern Passage ~ Event Hall

\$20 in Advance (cash only)
or \$25 at the Door

BAKER DRIVE TRAFFIC

I've been receiving complaints about speeding and vehicle noise on Baker Drive. Staff confirmed that there are two new crosswalks with curb bump outs scheduled to be installed on Baker Drive at Coldstream Run and Lindenwood Terr this year, so we are hoping this will help slow traffic.

If you see or hear motor vehicle or noise by-law violations, please contact the police non-emergency with as much information as you can to request enforcement.



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COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP TRAINING



Whether you're looking to develop new skills, strengthen your board or enhance your community programs, the HRM [community development team](#) offers a range of training workshops designed to support community leaders, volunteers and grassroots organizations. Check out our selection of 101-level workshops that are available to residents on a regular basis. These free workshops are offered regularly across the municipality and are suitable for learners of all levels. [Sign up](#) today to reserve your spot!

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

ZERO EMISSIONS BUSES

Did you know? Our new electric buses are much quieter than diesel buses, but fear not as each new bus is outfitted with an Acoustic Vehicle Alerting System that emits noise to alert pedestrians at low speeds. Learn more [here](#).

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.



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HRM REGIONAL PLAN UPDATE

On Friday, Aug. 8, 2025, the Halifax Regional Municipality received a letter from the Province of Nova Scotia's Minister of Municipal Affairs in response to the municipality's submission of the updated Regional Plan.

In the letter, the Minister indicated that the Regional Plan as submitted could not be accepted by the province and therefore could not be approved.

Underway since 2020, the Regional Planning process has incorporated years of extensive public engagement to inform updates to the 2014 Regional Plan – aimed at supporting sustainable growth across our region. It was passed by Regional Council on June 19, 2025 but in accordance with the [Halifax Regional Municipality Charter](#), adoption of the Regional Plan and other planning documents is subject to provincial review and approval.

Moving forward, this means that the [current 2014 Regional Plan](#), last amended in May 2025, remains in effect, as the new proposed amendments have not been approved by the province. Over the coming weeks, municipal staff will re-engage with the province to determine the next steps on the planning process and ensure the Regional Plan is updated in a way that aligns with provincial interests and fulfills the municipality's obligations under existing legislation.

For more information on the Regional Plan, including a copy of the Aug 8. letter from the Minister of Municipal Affairs, visit the [website](#).

PVSC ASSESSMENTS



Property Valuation Services Corporation (PVSC) Assessors are especially busy this time of year, conducting exterior property inspections across Nova Scotia. They

are reviewing building permit progress and gathering up-to-date information as part of the annual assessment process.

For your safety and peace of mind, Assessors are easy to identify with PVSC-marked vehicles, PVSC-issued ID, and high-visibility vests. You don't need to be home for these visits. The Assessor will leave contact information and next steps if a follow-up is needed. Learn more about their fieldwork [here](#).

NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

In its commitment to reconciliation and ensuring that the tragic history and ongoing legacy of residential schools is never forgotten, the Government of Canada passed legislation to make Sept. 30 a federal statutory holiday called the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. Formerly known as Orange Shirt Day, this day provides an opportunity to recognize and commemorate the legacy of residential schools and provides a day of quiet reflection or participation in a community event. To learn more, read the [Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Final Report](#) and think about how you can implement the Calls to Action in your own life.



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DEVELOPMENT APPROVAL COST FREEZE

The Province of Nova Scotia has announced an extension of the development approval cost freeze under Section 236A of the HRM Charter until Nov. 9, 2026.

This measure, first introduced in November 2023, means Halifax Regional Municipality and Halifax Water must continue to seek provincial approval before making any changes to fees related to residential development.

The extension supports Nova Scotia's participation in the Canada Housing Infrastructure Fund (CHIF), which will provide \$170.9 million over 10 years for housing-related infrastructure.

By maintaining the freeze, the Province aims to create stability for developers and help enable more housing supply.

SHEARWATER AVIATION MUSEUM FALL HOURS



The Shearwater Aviation Museum will be transitioning to their fall hours. They will be closed on weekends and holidays until next spring when we welcome back Victoria Day. But don't worry, you can still check out their library and exhibits on weekdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., so there's plenty of time to visit.

SHUBENACADIE LAKES FLOOD PLAINS STUDY

The Halifax Regional Municipality has released the Shubenacadie Lakes Floodplain Study.

The municipality is sharing this information to help residents understand flood risks, inform planning policy updates and support long-term mitigation strategies.

Online interactive maps from the Shubenacadie Lakes Floodplain Study are also available and the study is available for download.

The Shubenacadie Lakes Floodplain Study identifies areas at risk of flooding for one-in-20 and one-in-100-year events, incorporating climate change projections to the year 2100. It provides recommendations for future study of a range of mitigation measures, including:

- planning and land-use updates;
- green infrastructure;
- managing assets in high-risk areas; and
- potential infrastructure upgrades.

Started in 2019 with funding support from the National Disaster Mitigation Program, the study assesses current and future flood risks in the Shubenacadie Lakes System – including Shubenacadie Grand Lake, Fletchers Lake, Lake Thomas, Lake William and Lake Charles. The study area extends from Lock 5 to Lock 2 and covers Planning Districts 14 and 17 and the Dartmouth Plan Area. Residents can view the study and use the new interactive map to see if their property is located in a flood risk area [here](#).



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CONTACT CENTRE

More than a telephone number, 311 is your direct connection to municipal services. Email contactus@311.halifax.ca or call 311 and speak to our helpful operators for information about anything HRM-related: property taxes, illegally parked vehicles, recreation services, pet licenses, by-law concerns, litter and more:

Monday to Friday

8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Saturday & Sunday

9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

FEDERAL AND PROVINCIAL REPRESENTATIVES IN DISTRICT 3

Barbara Adams, MLA/ Eastern Passage

barbadamsmla@gmail.com

902-406-0656

Brad McGowan, MLA/ Cole Harbour – Dartmouth

jbgmcmgowan@gmail.com

902-424-2731

Darren Fisher, MP/ Dartmouth-Cole Harbour

darren.fisher@parl.gc.ca

902-462-6453

BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

I'm pleased to be serving on the following boards and committees along with Regional Council for this term:

Harbour East Marine Drive Community Council (Chair)

Regional Centre Community Council (Vice Chair)

Board of Police Commissioners (Vice-Chair)

Appeals Standing Committee (Chair)

Community Planning and Economic

Development Standing Committee

Canadian Capital Cities Organization

STREAMING REGIONAL COUNCIL

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.

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:

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.

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

CONTACT

Should you wish to discuss municipal services or programs, please contact me at **becky.kent@halifax.ca or 902-478-5368**. For routine municipal matters, please call our Citizen Contact Centre at 311.

To reach my office, please call Laura Nooyen at **902-490-1577**. For information on all things municipal, please visit our [website](#).