



## COUNCILLOR JEAN ST-AMAND

DISTRICT 16 NEWSLETTER  
BEDFORD - WENTWORTH

### SEPTEMBER 2025



Happy Labour Day! I hope you enjoyed the last holiday before the start of another school year and the busy fall routine begins. In Canada, Labour Day is more than a holiday; it is a reminder of the

values of solidarity, fairness, and justice. It's a day to honour the progress made through the collective efforts of unionized labour and to renew our commitment to a fair and equitable society for all. On Labour Day, we should all take a moment to reflect on the sacrifices and struggles that gave us this day and consider how you, too, can contribute to a fairer workplace and society.

It's the beginning of a new school year. I hope all students and teachers had a fun and exciting first week back! Best wishes to all for a successful year!

It's important to keep safety in mind, especially when school commences as there will be more pedestrians enroute to school and more commuters enroute to work and post-secondary studies. It is our collective responsibility to keep each other safe by obeying speed limits and all traffic signs and signals.

Keep reading for updates on the status of the municipality's regional plan, and Morris Street East connection, and many more interesting articles on what's going on in and around the community! I hope you will find this newsletter helpful and informative.

Contact me if you have questions regarding municipal programs/services by phone at 902-476-2484 or by email at [Jean.St-Amand@halifax.ca](mailto:Jean.St-Amand@halifax.ca)

### SEPTEMBER MEETING DATES

#### **Regional Council:**

Tuesday, September 9 at 10 a.m.  
Tuesday, September 23 at 10 a.m.

#### **Grants Committee:**

Wednesday, September 24 at 10 a.m.

#### **NorthWest Community Council:**

Monday, September 8 at 6 p.m.

#### **Accessibility Advisory Committee**

Monday, September 15 at 4 p.m.

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### Standing Committees:

#### Audit & Finance Standing Committee

Wednesday, September 17 at 10 a.m.

#### Community Planning & Economic Development Standing Committee

Thursday, September 18 at 10 a.m.

### DID YOU KNOW...

The name "September" comes from the Latin word "Septem", meaning "seven", as it was originally the seventh month of the Roman calendar before January and February were added.

Sept. 1 is Labour Day

Sept. 8 is Worldwide Cystic Fibrosis Day

Sept. 10 is World Suicide Prevention Day

Sept. 14 is Grandparents' Day

Sept. 15 is World Lymphoma Awareness Day

Sept. 16 is World Ozone Day

Sept. 20 is International Coastal Clean-Up Day

Sept. 21 is International Day of Peace

Sept. 21 is World Alzheimer's Day

Sept. 22 is Autumnal Equinox (Start of Fall)

Sept. 22 to 26 is Gender Equality Week

Sept. 24 is Rosh Hashanah

Sept. 28 is Police and Peace Officers National Memorial Day

Sept. 30 is National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (Orange Shirt Day)

### BACK TO SCHOOL SAFETY



As summer fades and school resumes, prioritizing traffic safety in residential areas is crucial. When students return to school, keeping them safe on the streets

should be a top concern. Here are essential tips and reminders for motorists and parents during this back-to-school season:

#### Respect Speed Limits:

Obey posted speed limits, especially in school zones. Reduced speed limits during school hours protect children traveling to and from school.

#### Yield to Pedestrians:

Always yield to pedestrians, especially near crosswalks and school zones. Children may not accurately judge traffic, so extra caution is necessary.

#### Eliminate Distractions:

Avoid distractions like cell phones and eating while driving in residential areas. Focus entirely on the road, as children might unexpectedly enter the street.

#### Stop for School Buses:

When a school bus stops, stop behind or in front of it as per local laws. Failing to do so endangers students and can lead to fines.

**Promote Walking and Biking Safely:** Consider walking or biking to school for physical activity and reduced traffic. Use designated paths and wear helmets while biking.



Big Cheer to a new school year full of exciting classes and activities! You'll do great!



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### Safe Routes to School:

Work with schools and parents to identify safe routes to school. This can include walking groups, carpooling, and advocating for better signage.

### Educate Children:

Teach children road safety, emphasizing looking both ways before crossing, using crosswalks, and wearing reflective clothing in low-light conditions.

### Support Traffic Calming Measures:

Advocate for traffic calming measures like speed bumps and narrowing roadways to slow traffic and protect pedestrians and cyclists.

Back to school should be a safe and exciting time for all. By following these tips and fostering responsible driving practices in your community, we can ensure a secure environment for students year-round. Let's make our neighborhoods safer for children during this back-to-school season and beyond.

## UPDATE ON THE STATUS OF THE MUNICIPALITY'S REGIONAL PLAN



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.

On Thursday, June 19, 2025, Regional Council [passed a motion](#) to repeal the existing 2014 Regional Municipal Planning Strategy (also known as the Regional Plan) and adopt the proposed 2025 Regional Municipal Planning Strategy with related amendments to other planning documents including the Regional Subdivision By-Law, Secondary Municipal Planning Strategies and Land Use By-Laws.

In accordance with the [Halifax Regional Municipality Charter](#), adoption of the Regional Plan and other planning documents is subject to provincial review and approval.

Over the past several months, municipal Planning & Development staff have been actively working with provincial staff to address feedback that had been previously received from the province. The decision by the province to not approve any of the proposed amendments was not expected, given the ongoing collaboration with provincial counterparts leading up to and following the submission for 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.

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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, please visit the [website](#).

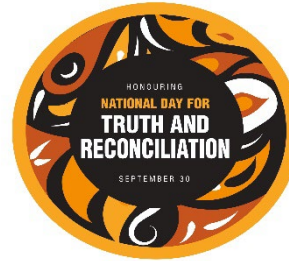
### GENDER EQUALITY WEEK



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. Conversely, gender inequality, rooted in colonialism and patriarchy, connects to other forms of oppression. It encompasses issues like violence against women and the transgender community, gender stereotypes dictating how boys and girls "should behave," and limited career choices based on gender. While progress has been made, including electing a predominantly female Regional Council for the first time, there is still work to do.

### 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

recently passed legislation to make September 30th 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.

#### Resources

Read the [Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Final Report](#) and think about how you can implement the Calls to Action in your own life.

Watch 215 Reflections to learn more about the intergenerational impacts of the residential school system, presented by Cheryl Copage-Gehue, Indigenous Community Engagement Advisor.

Read *Out of the Depths: The experiences of Mi'kmaw children at the Indian Residential School at Shubenacadie, Nova Scotia* by Isabelle Knockwood, and other memoirs by survivors.

Watch *We Were Children* (available on Amazon Prime), *Indian Horse* (available on Netflix), and *Little Bird* (available on Crave).



Fall arrives on  
September 22!

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Watch Gord Downie's [Secret Path](#).

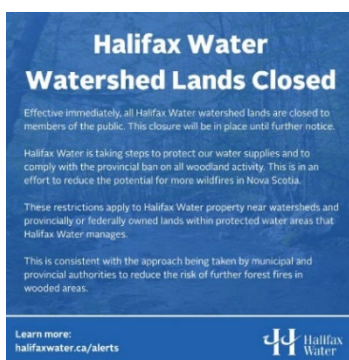
Learn about the Mi'kmaw communities whose land you live on and visit the three First Nations in Halifax Regional Municipality.

Visit Indigenous cultural heritage sites to learn about the traditions, culture, and resilience of your local communities.

Visit the Mi'kmaw Native Friendship Centre, and Peace and Friendship Park in Halifax. Have conversations with the people in your life about what reconciliation means and why it's important.

Support Indigenous artists, drummers, singers, dancers, language learners and small business owners; they are helping communities heal.

## HALIFAX WATER – WATERSHED LANDS CLOSED

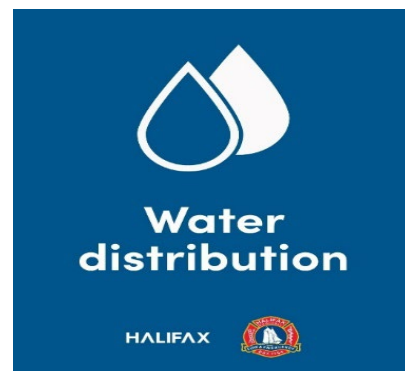


Effective immediately, all Halifax Water watershed lands are closed to members of the public. This closure will be in place until further notice.

Halifax Water is taking

steps to protect our water supplies and to comply with the provincial ban on all woodland activity. This is in an effort to reduce the potential for more wildfires in Nova Scotia.

## WATER DISTRIBUTION IN HRM



The Halifax Regional Municipality is experiencing extremely dry conditions due to a prolonged period without significant rainfall. Surface water and

groundwater levels are below normal, leaving many private wells dry. Prolonged drought can strain municipal water supplies, making water conservation essential. Beginning Aug. 13, the municipality will provide pre-packaged drinking water on Wednesdays and Sundays for individuals in need of potable water due to dry wells at five rural facilities across the municipality:

Fire Station 39, 14 NS-336, Upper Musquodoboit  
Wednesdays from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m./Sundays from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Fire Station 48, 1581 Beaverbank Road  
Wednesdays from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m./Sundays from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Fire Station 50, 2050 Hammonds Plains Road  
Wednesdays from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m./Sundays from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Fire Station 56, 8579 St Margarets Bay Road  
Wednesdays from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m./Sundays from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Sheet Harbour Ground Search and Rescue, 44 Behie Road  
Wednesdays from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m./Sundays from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

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The municipality is following provincial guidelines, provided by the Canadian Red Cross, to distribute four litres of water per person per day. Water is also available for pets, based on their weight.

This process will remain in place until Sept. 10, when Halifax Regional Fire & Emergency will reassess whether ongoing water shortage efforts are needed.

For full details, please visit [halifax.ca](http://halifax.ca)

**Shower access** is also available for residents with dry wells. Some recreation facilities have made their showers available to residents affected by dry wells during the drought.

These include:

Canada Games Centre, 26 Thomas Raddall Drive  
From 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Prospect Road Community Centre, 2141 Prospect Road  
from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Cole Harbour Place, 51 Forest Hills Parkway  
Weekdays: 6 a.m. to 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. to 9 p.m.  
Weekends: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

This list may be updated as demand changes.



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## VOLUNTARY WATER CONSERVATION MEASURES

### Water Conservation Tips



Due to the recent prolonged period of low precipitation, water levels within Halifax Water's supply areas have not been replenished. With no significant precipitation forecasted in the coming weeks, these levels will continue to lower.

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.

These measures include:

\*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.





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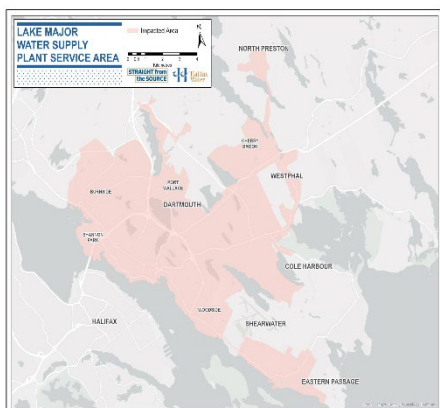
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\*Limit activities that use excess water, such as:  
Watering lawns. Washing vehicles. Filling pools.

To learn more and find further resources and a weekly water level update visit

<http://halifaxwater.ca/voluntary-water-conservation...>

## MANDATORY WATER CONSERVATION MEASURES IN EFFECT FOR CUSTOMERS SERVICED BY LAKE MAJOR



Halifax Water is implementing mandatory Stage 1 water restrictions for the Lake Major effective immediately. This impacts water service for the

communities of Dartmouth, Burnside, Cole Harbour, Westphal, North Preston and Eastern Passage (see attached map for affected service areas). This is due to the ongoing dry conditions and lack of precipitation. As a result, Lake Major has moved to the warning phase, which triggers the need for these mandatory Stage 1 restrictions.

In order to conserve water, Halifax Water requests that all residents and businesses supplied by the Lake Major Water Supply Plant follow mandatory Stage 1 water conservation measures until further notice.

The following activities are prohibited under mandatory Stage 1 conservation:

- Watering lawns.

- Washing vehicles.
- Filling pools.
- Watering golf courses.
- Bulk Fill Stations serviced by Lake Major will be closed

With the move to mandatory, residential and commercial customers are now expected to adhere to these measures. Failure to do so may result in a warning, a non-compliance fine, or suspension of service.

These mandatory water conservation measures are being implemented to maintain essential water service for all customers in the Lake Major service area. The goal is to help reduce demand until the rainfall can replenish the lake and remove/delay the need for an engineered pumping solution. Additional mandatory Stage 2 restrictions may be implemented in the future if lake levels are not replenished.

Halifax Water is also asking customers serviced by the Lake Major Water Supply to consider the following additional measures to conserve water:

- 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 you don't need it. Turn the tap off when brushing your teeth, shaving, washing your face etc. Wash only full loads of laundry and dishes.

Halifax Water customers serviced by Pockwock Lake remain under voluntary conservation measures.

Visit [halifaxwater.ca/reducing-your-water-wastewater-use](http://halifaxwater.ca/reducing-your-water-wastewater-use) for a full list of ways to conserve water.

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### UPDATE ON MORRIS STREET EAST CONNECTION



At the Aug. 5 meeting of Regional Council, Councillors voted 11-5 to rescind their previous decision to proceed with the Morris Street East Connection bikeway project. Staff had recommended reversing the July 8 motion and initiating new planning and engagement for an alternative East Connection that maintains two-way traffic on Morris Street.

The decision follows a July 16 letter from Premier Tim Houston advising the municipality that the Province would act under new authorities in Bill 24 if Council did not reverse its decision.

Bill 24 grants the Minister of Public Works the authority to direct municipalities to build, change, or remove transportation infrastructure in the interest of safe and efficient movement.

On July 8, Council had directed staff to proceed with implementing the Morris Street bikeway using temporary materials, and to return with an evaluation report two years after installation. The approved design would convert Morris Street to one-way eastbound for vehicle traffic and install a

two-way protected bikeway connecting University Avenue to Lower Water Street.

The Morris Street East Connection is part of the Peninsula South Complete Streets project, approved in October 2024, and is included in the municipality's AAA (All Ages and Abilities) Regional Centre Bike Network.

### HURRICANE READY



In an emergency like a hurricane, it may take emergency workers some time to get to you. Have an emergency kit ready and be prepared to take care of yourself and your family

for at least 72 hrs. That includes your pets!

Don't forget items they'll need to stay safe and healthy. Find hurricane preparedness information [here](#).



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#### NEW SECURITY MEASURES - ATTENDING IN-PERSON MEETINGS AT CITY HALL

There are security procedures in place for everyone [visiting Halifax City Hall](#) for all meetings and events. Please allow ample time to complete the process before your meeting or event.

All visitors, including media, must sign in and complete security screening at the security desk at the main (Grand Parade) entrance of City Hall.

Visitors who use the accessible entrance on Argyle Street will be escorted to the security desk by staff.

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**All visitors must present federal, provincial or territorial government-issued photo ID to security personnel.**

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They must also provide their first and last name and the reason for their visit. If a visitor does not have government issued photo ID, they may present two pieces of federal, provincial or territorial government-issued ID, two pieces of documentation (e.g. bills) or a combination of two pieces of government-issued ID/documentation as long as both pieces include their first and last name.

For children younger than 18, one piece of government-issued identification, such as an original birth certificate, health card, passport or non-government-issued ID (e.g. student card) is recommended but not mandatory as long as the child is accompanying a parent/guardian.

"Airport-style" security screening is required to enter City Hall. This ensures a safe environment for all visitors and employees.

You will be asked to remove jackets and place all personal items and electronics into the trays provided. City Hall security personnel will guide you through the screening process.

For the safety of all, the following items are prohibited:

- \*amplification devices and noisemakers (e.g. megaphones, air horns etc.);
- \*signs, placards and banners;
- \*sharp or piercing objects (e.g. scissors, razor blades, knitting needles, multi-tools with blades, corkscrews, knives, box cutters etc.) except medical use (e.g. insulin needles, EpiPen etc.);
- \*striking implements or tools (e.g. batons, hammers or other blunt force items);
- \*compressed gas containers (except medical use), aerosol sprays, pepper spray or non-sealed batteries;
- \*explosive or flammable materials (e.g. fireworks, ammunition, fuel, cooking gas, matches or non-disposable lighters) – disposable lighters are permitted;
- \*firearms of any kind, including imitation, replicas or toy weapons; and illegal or restricted items (e.g. brass knuckles, bear spray or other animal repellents etc.)

Once signed in, visitors will be given a visitor badge to wear while in City Hall. This badge must be visible during their entire visit and returned to security staff as they're leaving the building. For questions about attending a meeting in City Hall, contact the Municipal Clerk's Office at [clerks@halifax.ca](mailto:clerks@halifax.ca) or by phone 902.490.4210.

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### PROPERTY TAX REBATE FOR SENIORS



[The Nova Scotia Property Tax Rebate for Seniors program](#) helps low-income seniors with the cost of municipal residential

property taxes. The rebate amount is based on your municipal residential property taxes. Rebates are 50% of what you paid on last year's property taxes, up to a maximum of \$800. You can apply until Dec. 31, 2025.

To qualify for the rebate, you need to meet all of the following criteria:

- your 2024 municipal residential property taxes are paid in full (your name is on the property title)
- you lived at the property as your primary residence in 2024 (the property can't be someplace that you live occasionally or a seasonal home)
- you receive or are eligible to receive the [Guaranteed Income Supplement](#) (GIS) or the [Allowance](#) from Service Canada as of 1 July 2025

If you're not already receiving the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) or the Allowance, you can check with Service Canada to see if you're eligible for them. [Click here](#) for more information or [click here](#) to apply.

### SECONDARY SUITE INCENTIVE GRANT

The Halifax Regional Municipality is offering money to help homeowners build a second unit on their property. This could be:

- a basement apartment or in-law suite;
- a backyard suite (like a tiny home or garden suite); or
- a duplex conversion (turning a single home into two units).

[The Second Unit Incentive Program \(SUIP\)](#) is part of the [Housing Accelerator Fund](#) and is designed to make it easier and more affordable to add housing in the Halifax region.

All grant applications must be submitted by June 1, 2026 for up to \$12,900 in non-repayable grants. Construction must be complete and the occupancy certificate must be issued by October 11, 2026.

Eligibility:

- Must be your first secondary unit
- Applicant must be the owner (or one of the owners) of the property
- Property must be your primary residence
- Your property taxes must be up to date
- You must have a valid building permit for a backyard/secondary unit

All building permits must have an application date after March 18, 2025. If you applied for a permit before that date and it has not been issued, you can withdraw it and reapply. If your permit was issued before that date but no inspections have taken place, you can cancel it and receive a partial refund before reapplying



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### RESIDENTS INVITED TO SHARE FEEDBACK ON HALIFAX TRANSIT

The Halifax Regional Municipality is inviting residents to help shape the future of Halifax Transit by sharing feedback on a new transit plan.

Residents are encouraged to review the proposed plan details and complete a survey available at [shapeyourcityhalifax.ca/core-service-plan](https://shapeyourcityhalifax.ca/core-service-plan).

The municipality is seeking your input on:

- 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,
- feedback on long-term transit initiatives.

### Engagement sessions

Residents will also be able to provide feedback through various in-person engagement sessions which will be made available on our [website](#).

Halifax Transit is evolving planning to focus on short-term improvements to our transit network. Unlike Halifax Transit's previous five-year planning process, this three-year plan will allow for a more agile model that responds to the evolving needs of residents.

Your input will inform the creation of a new Core Service Plan launching in 2025.

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

### PROPERTY (PVSC) ASSESSMENTS



Property Valuation Services Corporation 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 any next steps if a follow-up is needed.

Learn more about their fieldwork at: [bit.ly/3U5E5ZI](https://bit.ly/3U5E5ZI)

### RECYCLE YOUR BATTERIES

When batteries end up in the garbage, they can start fires. Please recycle yours responsibly.

To find drop-off locations visit [www.recycleyourbatteries.ca](https://www.recycleyourbatteries.ca)

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#### SCAN: SAFER COMMUNITIES AND NEIGHBOURHOODS ACT



Are you worried about illegal drugs, alcohol, prostitution, or gaming in your building or on your street? The Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Act (SCAN) gives you a way to report your

concerns and take back your neighbourhood. SCAN improves community safety by targeting and, if necessary, shutting down residential and commercial buildings and land that are regularly used for illegal activities. SCAN gives citizens the tools to report problem residences and businesses; and gives authorities the power to investigate and take action. It also holds property owners accountable for threatening or disturbing activities regularly taking place on their property.

If you want to report a problem property or have any questions regarding SCAN, please call toll free at 1-877- 357-2337. Hours of operation are Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. If calling after hours, you can leave a message and someone will return your call. If you are reporting a problem property, you may also want to notify your local police agency.

If you have an emergency, dial 911.

Remember - It's Your Neighbourhood. Your call.

#### SHUBENACADIE LAKES FLOODPLAIN 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 at: [halifax.ca/shubenacadie-floodplain](http://halifax.ca/shubenacadie-floodplain)



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### SOLAR CITY



For over a decade, Solar City has offered municipal financing for solar energy systems to homeowners in the Halifax region. We've helped

hundreds of residents install solar on their property by supporting them throughout the entire installation process. With Solar City, homeowners borrow funds from the municipality through a Local Improvement Charge to cover the up-front costs of installing a solar energy system. The municipality provides stress-free, impartial guidance to help you through the process. Solar City lets you save big on your utility bills every month, with an estimated net savings of \$74,000 over 25 years.

You can also earn free electricity when you use Nova Scotia Power's Self-Generation Option. If you install a system with a capacity of 27 kW or less, you will receive credit for any extra energy your rooftop solar generates that you don't use to run your home over the course of a calendar year. At the end of the year, though, any surplus credits are canceled without compensation. Combine Solar City financing with other financial incentives. No credit check is required. No penalties for early repayment.

Unlock your home's solar potential today at [halifax.ca/solarcity](http://halifax.ca/solarcity).

### APPLICATIONS OPEN FOR 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.

Applications opened on Monday, Sept. 1 and will remain open until Friday, Oct. 3.

The Outdoor Community Rink Program aligns with Regional Council's commitment to advance community-based projects and support residents' ability to participate in outdoor winter activities in their own communities.

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

### WEEKLY GREEN CART COLLECTION ENDS SEPTEMBER 12



Bi-weekly collection will resume on Monday, Sept. 15. To ensure pickup, please have your green cart at the curb by 7 a.m. on collection day—and remember to

keep items secured from wildlife. The easiest way to confirm your schedule is by checking the Halifax Recycles app or visiting [halifax.ca](http://halifax.ca)

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## FIRE SAFETY AT CONSTRUCTION SITES



The municipality is urging those operating construction sites to ensure they follow site safety protocols. At this time, it is particularly critical to:

- Eliminate all ignition sources, such as smoking and open flames;
- Keep main fuel supply stored in approved tanks, located on level ground and kept away from work areas;
- Park, shut down and cool all equipment prior to fueling;
- Provide continuous fire watch for two hours after construction activities; and
- Prevent brush or other debris from accumulating under or around equipment.

Site operators also have a responsibility to regularly examine construction sites, ensure the early availability of water and firefighting supplies and train employees in basic firefighting procedures. Site operators are also reminded to clean up fuel spills immediately using noncombustible absorbing compounds and to protect high-value special equipment with a fixed extinguishing system.

Once a complete application is received, all technical requirements still apply, the application is required to go through the standard team review process and complete the public engagement component of an application, a report is still prepared, including a draft development agreement, but instead of proceeding to Community Council (or Regional Council) for First Reading and a Public Hearing, it proceeds to the Executive Panel on Housing where a recommendation is provided to the Minister.

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## APPLICATIONS OPEN FOR YOUTH WORX

The Halifax Regional Municipality is inviting residents to apply for Youth WORX – a professional development program designed to support youth aged 16 to 24 who face employment barriers.

Youth WORX offers up to 24 weeks of paid full-time employment. Participants will gain hands-on experience by operating the [Youth WORX Café](#) at the Sackville Sports Stadium and Zatzman Sportsplex, as well as repairing and delivering green carts on behalf of the municipality.

Participants will also develop essential life and job skills through job readiness coaching, workshops focused on employability and personal development. They can also earn a Grade 11 Professional Development Credit towards high school graduation.

Participants maintain a Monday to Friday work schedule with weekends off.

For more information on how to apply, or attend an upcoming information session, visit [our website](#).

## GRAFFITI REMOVAL KITS



Graffiti is a crime!

If you see it in progress call 911. Report graffiti on municipal owned property.

Private Property owners are responsible for the removal of graffiti from their own property.





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### BEDFORD - WENTWORTH

It is recommended that you file a Property Damage Report with the Police by calling 902.490.5016.

Private and Commercial Property owners can request a free Graffiti Removal Kit. Only one kit per property will be provided.

Kits include information on where to buy additional products. To request a kit, call 311.

Kits are available at all customer service locations.

For more information, or to submit an online request, click [here](#).

### JAPANESE BEETLES IN HRM



Japanese beetles are back in gardens across Halifax Regional Municipality, and their numbers appear to be on the rise again this year.

These metallic green and bronze insects feed on more than 300 plant species, damaging leaves, flowers, fruit, and lawns. Warmer temperatures may be contributing to the rise in numbers seen across the region. You'll most often spot Japanese beetles in mid-summer, from late June through early September. Above ground, they skeletonize leaves and chew through flowers, while their grubs feed on grass roots below ground, leaving dead patches in lawns.

According to Halifax Seed, residents can reduce damage by hand-picking beetles and placing them in soapy water; or by using pheromone traps – just be sure to place traps at least 10 feet, ideally 30 feet, away from plants.

To reduce next year's population, treat your lawn for grubs in spring and fall using beneficial nematodes or biological sprays. Choosing less-susceptible plants can also help limit damage.

Japanese beetles are a regulated pest in Canada. Movement of soil, rooted plants, or turf is restricted to protect uninfested regions.

Contact a local garden centre for further assistance; they will be happy to provide their expertise.

### MULCH FIRE PREVENTION

In hot, dry, and windy conditions, mulch can catch fire—from decaying material that builds up heat, sparks, embers, or improperly discarded smoking materials.

Stay safe with these steps:

1. Keep mulch moist during hot, dry, and windy weather.
2. Maintain a clear zone of at least 45 cm (18 in) between mulch and your home, deck, siding, or propane tanks.
3. Spread mulch no more than 5 cm (2 in) thick to prevent heat buildup.
4. Always fully extinguish smoking materials in a deep ashtray or metal can with sand or water—never drop them in or around mulch. Spread the word—stop mulch fires before they start.



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### IN THE COMMUNITY



I'm pleased to share that the municipality has finished the installation of a new flashing light crossing at Hammond Plains Road and Doyle Street. This location is a well-used school bus stop, and this will provide much needed extra visibility for the students crossing our busy Hammonds Plains Road. An appreciated addition as the school year begins.



A really exciting addition is coming to Bedford South School - some key volunteers, along with school and HRCE administration, organized the installation of a complete set of accessible outdoor musical instruments.

SEPTEMBER 2025

I met with the team and the contractor bright and early this morning and they are looking forward to the unveiling next week. My thanks to my colleagues @djbillyghfx, Kathryn Morse and John Young for teaming up with me to provide some district capital to help bring this to the school community.



Municipal crews will be carrying out construction work on Dartmouth Road from the Bedford Highway to Windmill Road starting Monday August 18th and continuing in various steps over a 2-month period.

Please be patient as we complete micro-surfacing, preventative maintenance that extends the life of the roadway and improves the level of service to our area.

We apologize for the inconvenience and disruptions to traffic flow you may experience while this work is completed.

Please plan alternate routes as needed.





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Bedford's Lebrun Recreation Centre playground is getting an upgrade! The building of the new playground to serve the community has started and is expected to take about 3 weeks. The attached photo is an approximation of what the new equipment will look like when completed.



Come on out to the GEC on September 20th to help BDMHA give back to the community! We're hosting a gear swap later this month to help give back to families in need, and to help those families engage in hockey!



Please keep the Bedford Food Pantry in mind as you're doing your back-to-school and grocery shopping! With students heading back tomorrow, we could use school lunch items: juice boxes, cookies, crackers, apple sauce, etc.! Thank you for your support at this busy time of year.

SEPTEMBER 2025

## PAWS IN THE PARK

a fundraiser for ElderDog Canada

DEWOLF PARK, BEDFORD

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

10:30 AM - 2:00 PM

(RAIN DATE SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28)

FACE PAINTING • 50/50 • VENDOR MARKET

TRAINING DEMOS • NAIL CLIPPING

RAFFLES

[www.facebook.com/elderdoghalifax](http://www.facebook.com/elderdoghalifax)  
for more details to come



Mark your calendars! A fundraiser for ElderDog Canada is coming to DeWolf Park on September 21st! To learn all about them, go to <https://www.facebook.com/elderdoghalifax>

I'll be there along with several of my council colleagues to support the event!





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Curious about how to research local history?

Join Municipal Archivists on Tuesday, September 23 at Scotia Square (5201 Duke Street) for answers to your local history questions and tips on how to care for your own archives.

Learn more about the Halifax Municipal Archives here: [halifax.ca/archives](https://halifax.ca/archives).



Surprise Bonus Prizes!

Summer's not over yet—and we've got two once-in-a-lifetime experiences just added to our TD Summer Reading Club prizes for ages 8 and up:

Lieutenant Governor for a Day:

Step inside Government House for a behind-the-scenes tour and spend a day with Nova Scotia's Lieutenant Governor.

Mayor for a Day:

Head to City Hall for a day alongside Mayor Andy Fillmore—tour the building and take part in special civic activities.

How to enter? Easy. Just hit your summer reading goal, and your name goes into the draw! Two winners will be chosen at the end of the summer.

To learn more and to sign up for the TD Summer Reading Club visit

<https://hfxpublib.org/R2WfR>

In partnership with [Halifax Regional Municipality](#) and [Office of the Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia](#)



Mark your calendars!

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### National Acadian Day Proclamation and Flag Raising



### Meals for the wildfire emergency team!



*Thank you Montana's Bayers Lake*

### Beautiful new French bistro/bakery/grocery The Parisian Market in West Bedford



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### BEDFORD - WENTWORTH



Strength from a shared vision. That was the powerful message shared in Kiwanis Graham's Grove by the large @uacwa community gathered to mark the Emancipation Parade, a Family BBQ; and to share music, food, dance, art and more.

Many thanks to Daisy, the president of the United African Canadian Women's Association and her colleagues and volunteers for the warm welcome and absolutely delicious food.

It was an honour to drop in for these celebrations!



Natal Day with some of my Council Colleagues

# welcome back to school!



## HELPFUL INFORMATION FOR THE 2025-26 SCHOOL YEAR AT HRCE

### WE'RE GROWING!

Over the past five years, HRCE has welcomed more than 10,000 new students. With +60,000 students and +10,000 staff, there's a lot of exciting change happening daily!

- 136 schools
- 187 modular classrooms
- 53 portable classrooms
- +400 busses transporting +30,000 students
- +80 different languages

### DID YOU KNOW?

### QUESTIONS?

HRCE's Family Navigators are always ready to lend a hand!

- 902-464-2000
- connect@hrce.ca
- www.hrce.ca

### CALENDAR

Visit [hrce.ca/families/calendars](https://hrce.ca/families/calendars) to view the 2025-26 school year calendar. Don't miss the downloadable option, which will allow families and staff to add these important dates to their digital calendars. Any unforeseen changes to operations, like snow days, will be noted on [hrce.ca](https://hrce.ca).

### REGISTRATION

Registration for Pre-Primary to Grade 12 is open throughout the school year. New to HRCE? Visit [hrce.ca/families/student-registration-updates](https://hrce.ca/families/student-registration-updates)

### EXCEL

Looking for before- or after-school childcare options? Learn more at [hrce.ca/families/general-information/excel](https://hrce.ca/families/general-information/excel)

### TRANSPORTATION

Questions about busing? Visit [hrce.ca/families/student-transportation](https://hrce.ca/families/student-transportation). For specific questions, contact 902-431-4723 or [transportation@hrce.ca](mailto:transportation@hrce.ca) for more information.

### SCHOOL SUPPLIES

If a student needs supplies, schools will provide materials. Families should reach out to their child's school for more information.

### COMMUNICATION

Families can expect regular communication from HRCE and their child's school. When there is new information to share, it will be emailed to families using the email address on file in PowerSchool. To update email addresses and/or home addresses in PowerSchool, please contact the child's school.

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### BEDFORD - WENTWORTH

#### WHO DOES WHAT?

##### Federal Government

Airports	Criminal laws	Canadians Mortgages
Borders & passports	Employment Insurance	National RCMP
Broadcasting & telecommunications	Environment	National defence & veteran's affairs
Canada Child Benefit	Fisheries, oceans & national parks	Postal service
Charter of Human Rights	Immigration	Student loans
Correctional facilities	Income tax	International travel and support for abroad

##### Provincial Government

Addictions and mental health	100 series highways & off ramps	Property tax (property assessment)
Affordable/public housing	Hospitals	Provincial parks
Correctional facilities	Housing	Provincial RCMP
Employer and employee supports	Justice	Schools and school parking lots
Environment	Landlord and tenant supports	Student loans
Family and Community Support Services	Lakes	Workplace safety
	Post-secondary education	

##### Municipal Government

City Hall	Municipal police force (i.e. HRP & RCMP District H)	Property tax (municipal portion)
Development and building permits and fees	Municipal parks	Recreation facilities
Environment	Libraries	Snow removal & waste collection
Fire services (i.e. HRFE)	Local road maintenance & improvement	Transit
Halifax Water	Parks, trails and playgrounds	

**Not sure which level of government does what  
Federal, Provincial, or Municipal - See the  
helpful chart above.**

#### IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

##### 911 - Emergencies

Call this number for help right away to protect your safety or property.

##### 811 - Primary Health Care

Call this number for health advice and peace of mind.

##### 511 - Highway and Road Conditions

Call this number for information about provincial highways & roads.

##### 311 - Municipal information, services, and complaints

Call this number for information about programs and services within the municipal government.

##### 211 - Confidential information and referral service that connects individuals to community programs and services

Call this number for information on non-profit, community and government programs and services, including information about being ready for an emergency.

- Poison Centre (1-844-764-7669)
- Bell Aliant outages 611 or 1-800-663-2600
- Eastlink outages 1-888-345-1111
- Halifax Water 24-hour emergency (water, sewer, and flooding) (902) 420-9287
- Mental Health and Addictions Crisis Line 1-888-429-8167
- NS Power outages 1-877-428-6004
- Police Non-Emergency (902) 490-5020
- Shelter Nova Scotia (902)-406-3631
- SPCA Dartmouth Shelter (902) 468-7877
  - to report Animal Cruelty 1-888-703-7722
- Red Cross 1-800-222-9597



## COUNCILLOR JEAN ST-AMAND

BEDFORD - WENTWORTH

### PROVINCIAL & FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVES

The following are the [provincial](#) Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs) and [federal](#) Members of Parliament (MPs) representatives for District [16](#).

#### MLA Tim Outhit, Bedford Basin



1597 Bedford Highway, #306  
Bedford, NS  
B4A 1E7

Phone:  
782-540-9849

Email:  
[timouthitmla@gmail.com](mailto:timouthitmla@gmail.com)

#### MLA Rick Burns, Hammonds Plains-Lucasville



12 Westwood Blvd  
Upper Tantallon, NS  
B3Z 1H3

Phone:  
902-404-4393

E-mail:  
[rick.burns.mla@gmail.com](mailto:rick.burns.mla@gmail.com)

#### MLA Dadian Stoilov, Bedford South



620 Nine Mile Drive, Unit 208  
Bedford, NS  
B4A 0H4

Phone:  
902-405-3518

Email:  
[damianstoilovmla@gmail.com](mailto:damianstoilovmla@gmail.com)

#### MP Braedon Clark, Sackville-Bedford-Preston



Suite 201  
2900 Hwy 2  
Fall River

Toll-free (Canada):  
1-866-599-4999

Telephone:  
613-992-4793

TTY:  
613-995-2266

Email:  
[braedon.clark@parl.gc.ca](mailto:braedon.clark@parl.gc.ca)



## COUNCILLOR JEAN ST-AMAND

BEDFORD - WENTWORTH

### COUNCILLOR ST-AMAND



#### Councillor Jean St-Amand

District 16  
Bedford – Wentworth

902.476.2484  
jean.st-amand@halifax.ca

Halifax Regional Municipality  
PO Box 1749 | Halifax, NS B3J 3A5

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I serve on Regional Council, North West Community Council, and the following boards and committees:

- Audit and Finance Standing Committee
- Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee
- Grants Committee - Chair
- Discover Halifax
- Accessibility Advisory Committee
- Acadian and Francophone Community Liaison

### EMAIL LIST, SOCIAL MEDIA, COMMUNITY EVENTS CALENDAR

Visit [jeastamandhrm.ca](http://jeastamandhrm.ca) to subscribe to my email list for occasional updates about District 16.

Follow me on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/jean.st.amand) and [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/jean.st.amand) for more frequent updates and announcements of my activities and things that are happening around the district. While social media is great, for official business, please contact me directly by phone or email.

Visit [jeanstamandhrm.ca/events](http://jeanstamandhrm.ca/events) for my community events calendar.

For additional assistance, you may also reach my Constituency Coordinator, Nancy Viner at [Nancy.Viner@halifax.ca](mailto:Nancy.Viner@halifax.ca).

### WE ARE ALL TREATY PEOPLE

The Halifax Regional Municipality honours and recognizes the importance of the Indigenous people (First Nation, Métis, and Inuit) and their cultural contributions to the tapestry of our region. 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 & Friendship Treaties signed in this Territory and recognizes that we are all Treaty People.

“...and all at once,  
summer collapsed  
into fall.”

– OSCAR WILDE



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