



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

WELCOME OCTOBER

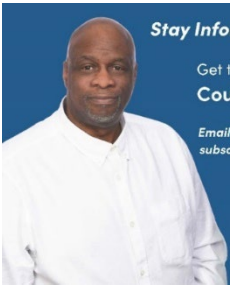
As we step into October, we find ourselves surrounded by the beautiful fall colours and the crispness in the air. This month is not just a transition to a new season; it is a time of reflection, gratitude, and celebration.

Let us take a moment to embrace the spirit of Thanksgiving, it's a time to gather with loved ones. I encourage each of you to pause amidst the busyness of life and reflect on the blessings we have received this year.

October is also a significant month as we honour Mi'kmaq History Month. This is a time to celebrate the rich culture, history, and contributions of the Mi'kmaq people.

As Halloween approaches, please note some safety tips further on in this e-newsletter.

Please do not hesitate to reach out with questions regarding municipal programs and services.



Stay Informed, Stay Connected

Get the latest updates from
Councillor John Young

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



John

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OCTOBER MEETING DATES

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

Regional Council:

Tuesday, Oct. 7 at 10 a.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 28 at 10 a.m.

North West Community Council: Monday,

- Monday, Oct. 6 at 6 p.m.

Standing Committees:

Appeals Standing Committee

- Sept. 11 at 10 a.m.

Audit & Finance Standing Committee

- TBD

Special Events Advisory Committee

- TBD

DATES TO NOTE

October is Mi'kmaw History, Women's History, Disability Employment Awareness, and Cyber Security Awareness Month

Oct. 1 – Treaty Day

Oct. 5 – 11 – Fire Prevention Week

Oct. 11 - International Day of the Girl Child

Oct. 13 - Thanksgiving Day

Oct. 18 – Persons Day

Oct. 31 – Halloween

MI'KMAW HISTORY MONTH

October is
Mi'kmaw History Month

October is Mi'kmaw History Month, a time to commemorate the rich history, proud culture and important contributions of the Mi'kmaq people. In 1993, Premier John Savage and Mi'kmaw Grand Chief Ben Sylliboy declared October as the official month to recognize and celebrate Mi'kmaw culture and heritage.

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.



DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH



October is [Disability Employment Awareness Month \(DEAM\)](#) a time to recognize the contributions of people with disabilities in the workforce. Throughout the month, DEAM initiatives aim to bring awareness to barriers experienced by those living with disabilities and encourages workplaces across country to create inclusive and accessible environments for all.

Did you know?

- Nova Scotia has the highest provincial average of individuals with disabilities, with 38 per cent of Nova Scotians over the age of 15 identifying as having a disability (Canadian average is 27 per cent)
- Nova Scotia became the third Canadian province to create accessibility legislation with the passing of the Nova Scotia Accessibility Act in 2017, following Manitoba (2013) and Ontario (2005)
- According to the Canadian Survey on Disability 2017, the four most common disabilities among Nova Scotian adults include pain related disabilities, flexibility issues, mobility, and mental health related disabilities, with almost 20 per

cent of individuals identifying as having a pain related disability

Numbers of individuals with disabilities is expected to grow as our population ages, making the municipality's commitment to improving accessibility and inclusion across our organization, in our programs and services and in the communities we serve increasingly important.

In support of this goal, and in alignment with the provincial accessibility framework, the Office of Diversity & Inclusion/ANSAIO developed an [Accessibility Strategy](#) that was unanimously approved by Regional Council in May 2021.

We all play a part in working to break down the barriers that exist for people living with disabilities.

TREATY DAY



Every year on October 1, Nova Scotians mark Treaty Day to celebrate the rich history, proud culture and important contributions of Mi'kmaq people.

These centuries-old treaties honour the enduring bond of friendship and respect between Nova Scotia's Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities and reaffirm the



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historic presence of the Mi'kmaw who have occupied the land for thousands of years.

Learn how to pronounce the words "Treaty Day," "September," and "October" in Mi'kmaw [here](#).

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE GIRL

Oct. 11 is [International Day of the Girl Child](#), a day dedicated to celebrating the voices and power of girls, championing their rights worldwide, and reflecting on the challenges they continue to face because of their gender.

Canada led the international effort to establish this day to draw attention to the persistent inequalities and dangers that too many girls face around the world. The United Nations subsequently adopted a resolution to formally recognize this important date.

Across Canada and around the world, girls are making an impact and creating positive change in their communities and far beyond. They are leading the way as students, entrepreneurs, volunteers and activists, and proving that you are never too young to shape the future and improve the lives of others.

BEDFORD HAMMONDS PLAINS COMMUNITY CENTRE FITNESS CLASSES

Check out the new classes at the Bedford Hammonds Plains Community Centre this fall for all fitness levels:

BOOTCAMP (36107) - this high energy, fast paced full body workout is designed to build strength, endurance and confidence.

Starts Tuesday Sept 9, 7:00-8:00 p.m.- 13 wks.
- \$99.15+tax

TAE BO (25464) - incorporates martial arts techniques such as stances, kicks and punches as well as traditional choreography.

Starts Thursday Sept 11, 6:00-7:00 p.m. - 15 wks. - \$100.35+tax

Register at halifax.ca/myrec

WILDFIRE SMOKE



It's not unusual to notice the smell of smoke in the air during wildfire season (March 15 – October 15), especially in the morning.

Most of the time, it can be carried from fires burning elsewhere in the province or even farther away.

Here's when you should call 911:

- You see a defined column of smoke.
- You notice visible flames.
- There's a new, dark plume of smoke in the sky.



VOLUNTARY WATER CONSERVATION MEASURES

Water Conservation Tips



Halifax Water is urging residents to follow the Voluntary Water Conservation Measures requested for the municipality. 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 Aug. 5, Halifax Water has not seen a significant decrease in demand. Mandatory water conservation measures are in effect for customers serviced by Lake Major; however, voluntary conservation measures remain in place for those serviced by Pockwock Lake.

Voluntary conservation 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.

Limit activities that use excess water, such as:

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

Visit halifaxwater.ca/reducing-your-water-wastewater-use for a full list of ways to conserve water.

To learn more and find further resources and a weekly water level update visit <http://halifaxwater.ca/voluntary-water-conservation>

DROUGHT MONITORING AND WATER DELIVERY

With rural wells running dry across HRM this summer, Regional Council has approved steps to expand and continue the municipal water distribution program.

Council voted to add more water distribution locations so residents in drought-affected communities have better access to safe drinking water. The program provides four litres of water per person per day, following Canadian Red Cross guidelines. Since early August, more than \$59,000 worth of water has been distributed through volunteer fire stations, supported by local firefighters, Joint Emergency Management teams, and municipal staff.



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To keep the program running, Council also approved up to \$200,000 in reserve funding. Any provincial or federal reimbursements received will be returned to the reserve.

Recognizing the environmental impact of bottled water, the municipality distributes larger 4-litre jugs instead of single-use bottles whenever possible.

These actions ensure residents without access to well water continue to have safe drinking water during this prolonged drought.

Note: this motion will be final when the meeting minutes are approved by Regional Council.

BRAD ANGUISH APPOINTED ACTING CAO



On Sept. 3, 2025, Halifax Regional Council announced the appointment of Brad Anguish as Acting Chief Administrative Officer (A/CAO) for the municipality, effective Sept. 8, 2025.

Mr. Anguish brings more than 22 years of experience with HRM, including leadership roles in Operations, Public Works, and Parks & Recreation. He has also overseen major municipal projects such as the Harbour Clean Up and the Cogswell District project.

Congratulations, Mr. Anguish! We look forward to working with him in this important leadership role.

PARKS STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM



Regional Council has directed the CAO to develop a Park Stewardship

Program.

The proposed program will expand opportunities for residents and community groups to take part in the care and enhancement of municipal parks. It builds on existing initiatives such as community gardens and naturalization projects, while adding new components like Adopt-a-Park and more flexible cleanup opportunities.

Halifax has more than 900 parks, ranging from neighbourhood green spaces to wilderness areas. While day-to-day maintenance is performed by municipal staff or contractors, there is strong community interest in contributing to stewardship activities. The Park Stewardship Program will provide a consistent, coordinated framework for this involvement.

The program is expected to launch using existing resources, with future program growth to be assessed and reported back to Council as required.

Note: this motion will be final when the meeting minutes are approved by Regional Council.



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STUDENT TRANSIT PASS

Students in grades 7 to 12 at all HRCE and CSAP schools, as well as homeschooled students across Halifax, can ride Halifax Transit for free during the 2025/26 school year.

Your Student Transit Pass gives you unlimited access to buses and ferries from Sept. 4, 2025, to Sept. 11, 2026.

Learn more at <https://brnw.ch/21wVFFB>

YOUTHWORX INFORMATION SESSIONS



Get 24 weeks of paid work experience, training and skill building with the Youth WORX Program! Participants gain hands-on work experience and improve their skills

through job readiness workshops while earning an income. Learn more by joining us for an upcoming information session:

- Sept. 15 | 6 p.m. | North Preston Community Centre
- Sept. 17 | 6 p.m. | Sackville Sports Stadium
- Sept. 24 | 6 p.m. | Zatzman Sportsplex
- Sept. 29 | 6 p.m. | Captain William Spry Centre
- Oct. 2 | 4 p.m. | Power House Youth Centre

Apply by October 10 for our fall program. Applicants must be between 16-24 years of age. Learn more at halifax.ca/youthworx.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLACEMAKING



Applications now open for 2026 Neighbourhood Placemaking!

Apply to our annual municipal initiative that helps neighbours connect through community-led

projects in their neighbourhoods. Successful applicants will receive training, guidance and funding for their 2026 neighbour-led project.

Learn more and apply by October 30 at halifax.ca/placemaking.

FALL 2025 LEADERSHIP & COMMUNITY TRAINING WORKSHOPS

HRM's Neighbourhood & Volunteer Services team is offering free workshops this fall to support volunteers, boards, grassroots organizations, and non-profits in building stronger communities.

Workshops run from October to December and cover topics like neighbourhood placemaking, board governance, conflict resolution, and mapping community resources.

Sessions take place in locations across the HRM:

- Oct. 1 – Neighbourhood Placemaking 101 (Halifax Central Common)



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- Oct. 8 – Boards 101 (Cole Harbour Place)
- Oct. 30 – Navigating Community Resources: Asset Mapping 101 (Cole Harbour Place)
- Nov. 5 – Boards 101 (Sackville Sports Stadium)
- Dec. 3 – Communication & Conflict Resolution (Chocolate Lake Recreation Centre)

If these dates or locations don't work, community groups can also request customized training through the Leadership & Community Training Opportunities page at Halifax.ca/Volunteer-Training.

FLOOD READY

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

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

Learn more here: halifax.ca/flood-ready

HFX ALERT



Get notified when it matters most.

Sign up for hfxALERT, the Halifax Regional Municipality's mass notification system, to

receive critical and non-urgent alerts, as well as municipal winter parking ban notices.

To find out more and to register, visit: <http://halifax.ca/hfxalert>

SHUBENACADIE LAKES FLOODPLAN

Live near the Shubenacadie Lakes? You may be in a floodplain, even if you've never seen flooding before.

The study identifies areas with increased risk of flooding and includes planning recommendations for the future.

Learn more: halifax.ca/shubenacadie-floodplain

ANTI-BLACK RACISM GRANTS PROGRAM



The Halifax Regional Municipality is now accepting applications for the second year of the Anti-Black Racism (ABR) Grants Program.



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Launched in 2024, the program was established to address anti-Black racism through grassroots projects and initiatives.

Anti-Black racism is a form of discrimination uniquely rooted in the history of Black people, informed by the legacies of enslavement and colonization, and experienced daily across the municipality and the world.

Grants ranging from \$500 to \$10,000 are available to support community-based projects developed and delivered at the local level.

Applications will be accepted from Monday, September 15 to Friday, October 31 at 11:59 p.m.

Learn more: buff.ly/7vD8JQw

HALIFAX WATER INFRASTRUCTURE INSPECTIONS

Activities such as driveway paving and landscaping on your property can damage your connection to the water supply. This is why Halifax Water asks customers planning property improvements such as driveway paving or landscaping to contact the utility 2-3 weeks before work begins.

This will allow time to schedule and conduct a visit to your property to complete an inspection and maintenance of the water service box that connects your home to the water main in the street.

Halifax Water offers this service at no charge to its customers.

Please call our Customer Care Centre at 902-420-9287 to start the process.

Halifax Water recommends having this work done before your new driveway or landscaping is in place to avoid unnecessary disturbance of newly installed landscaping or paving.

TAX RELIEF FOR NONPROFIT AND CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS

Because the Jan. 31, 2026, deadline falls on a weekend the application deadline has been extended to Monday, Feb. 2, 2026.

Late or incomplete applications will not be accepted.

HRM's website has an overview of the program and the Application Form for those organizations seeking to add a property to the program next fiscal year.

For those organizations already accepted into the program ("Renewals") the web page also has the annual Confirmation Form. This form must be completed and submitted by the stated deadline to avoid a 50% reduction in level of tax relief up to a maximum of \$5,000 per property. Any deduction for non-compliance with the program's reporting requirements will be apportioned between the interim and final tax bills.

The web page address is:

<https://www.halifax.ca/business/doing-business-halifax/tax-relief-non-profit-organizations> or simply use the search bar on HRM's home page.

Inquiries should be directed to 311 or Contactus@311.halifax.ca



HALLOWEEN SAFETY TIPS



Halloween is just around the corner! We look forward to the fun that comes with this spooky day, but it is important to keep safety a priority.

Trick-or-treaters, parents and guardians:

- Look both ways before crossing the street but try to limit cross-crossing the street (go down one side of the street and up the other). Always watch for vehicles.
- Trick-or-treat with people from your household or your close social group – never go alone.
- Ensure Halloween costumes are bright, reflective, fit well and are warm. Consider using face paint or makeup instead of a mask.
- Carry a flashlight and stay close to well-lit areas.
- Be sure an adult checks all Halloween candy before trick-or-treaters dig in.
- Trick-or-treaters should tell their parents and/or guardians their Halloween route and when they expect to be home.
- Never enter someone's home while trick-or-treating.

Motorists:

- Drive slowly and be careful backing up and drive with extra caution in residential areas.

Homeowners:

- Keep your doorway well-lit; clear of tripping hazards and open flames.
- Give out only commercially wrapped snacks.
- Keep pets inside on Halloween.

Wishing everyone a safe, fun-filled night!

COMMUNITY EVENTS





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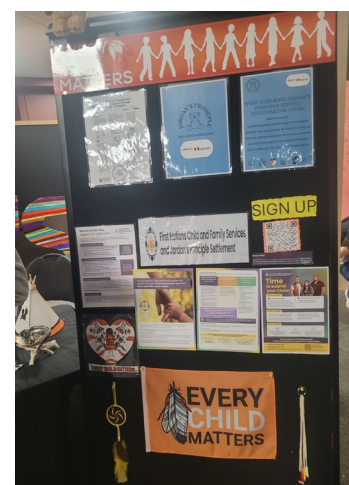
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Atlantic Funeral Home grand opening with MLA Paul Wozney.



The Annual Halifax Regional RCMP Detachment Stakeholders Update



Mi'kmaw Native Friendship Centre visit on Truth and Reconciliation Day



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COMMUNITY MEETING SPACE

As your Councillor for District 14 I want to ensure that I make myself available to residents to listen to your ideas and concerns of our community. I am excited to share that I have secured office space at the Sackville Library at 636 Sackville Drive, Lower Sackville.

If you would like to book an appointment during my office hours (see below), please contact my Council Constituency Coordinator Vicki Palmetter at 902-490-2012 or Victoria.palmetter@halifax.ca. She would be happy to assist you in scheduling an appointment.

Office Hours:

Wednesday's from 9 AM-12:30 PM

Dates:

Oct. 8, 2025

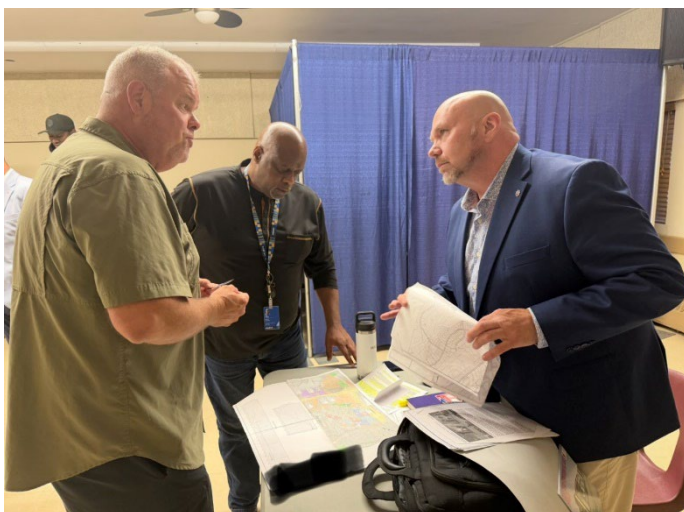
Oct. 22, 2025

Nov. 5, 2025

Nov. 26, 2025

Dec. 3, 2025

Dec. 17, 2025



Sackville Townhall Meet and Greet

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MUNICIPAL? PROVINCIAL? FEDERAL? WHO DOES WHAT?

Wondering what level of government to contact? The chart below will help you determine if it is a matter under the municipal, provincial or federal mandate.



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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	

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

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

INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE



“Words to Live By”

**“If the lion
doesn’t tell his story,
the hunter will.”**

African Proverb meaning: It is important to share your own story to control the narrative.

COUNCILLOR JOHN YOUNG



Councillor John Young

District 14

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

902.943.9241

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

HALIFAX

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

- Northwest Community Council
- Transportation Standing Committee

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