



DEPUTY MAYOR TONY MANCINI
DISTRICT 6 NEWSLETTER
DARTMOUTH EAST - BURNSIDE

Together We Can Build Safe, Healthy, Active Communities

WELCOME OCTOBER

Thanksgiving is a special time to give thanks and celebrate with family and friends. I feel blessed to serve the residents of District 6 and bring your ideas and concerns to HRM. Thank you for the opportunity and the honour to be your voice in your government and from my family to yours, Happy Thanksgiving!

Thank you to everyone who came to the annual HRM Bike Ride on Sept. 25. It was an awesome event and much fun was had. A special thank you to all staff who helped to put together this wonderful event.

A friendly reminder to folks that Halifax Water's mandatory conservation measures are still in effect for Lake Major. More information, including tips on water conservation can be found below in this newsletter.

As always, please reach out with any of your municipal questions or concerns. I'm always happy to hear from you!



BIENVENUE AU MOIS D'OCTOBRE

L'Action de grâce est un moment spécial pour rendre grâce et célébrer avec la famille et les amis. Je me sens chanceux de servir les résidents du district 6 et de faire part de vos idées et de vos préoccupations à la MRH. Je vous remercie de m'avoir donné l'occasion et l'honneur d'être votre voix au sein de votre gouvernement et, de ma famille à la vôtre, je vous souhaite une bonne Action de grâce!

Merci à tous ceux qui sont venus à la balade à vélo annuelle de la MRH le 25 septembre. C'était un événement incroyable et nous nous sommes beaucoup amusés. Un merci spécial à tout le personnel qui a aidé à organiser cet événement merveilleux.

Un rappel amical aux gens que les mesures de conservation obligatoires d'Halifax Water sont toujours en vigueur pour le lac Major. D'autres renseignements, y compris des conseils sur la conservation de l'eau, peuvent être trouvés ci-dessous dans cette infolettre.

Comme toujours, n'hésitez pas à me contacter pour toute question ou préoccupation municipale. Je suis toujours ravi d'avoir de vos nouvelles!



MI'KMAW HISTORY MONTH

MANDATORY WATER CONSERVATION MEASURES

Halifax Water has implemented 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.



October is Mi'kmaw History Month, beginning with Treaty Day on Wednesday, Oct. 1. This year's theme is A'tukwemk aq A'tukowinu'k – Storytelling and Storytellers. It honours the distinctive stories of Mi'kmaw people - stories shaped by the land and waters, rooted in Mi'kma'ki, and passed down through generations.

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.

Residents are encouraged to learn more about reconciliation and Mi'kmaw history on our [website](#). Residents can also explore additional resources found [here](#).

2025-2028 ACCESSIBILITY STRATEGY

The municipality has released the 2025–2028 Accessibility Strategy. It outlines 30 recommendations in six key areas to improve accessibility and representation.

The recommendations are to be completed over a three-year period and represent a call to action to create a municipality that is accessible to all, regardless of ability.

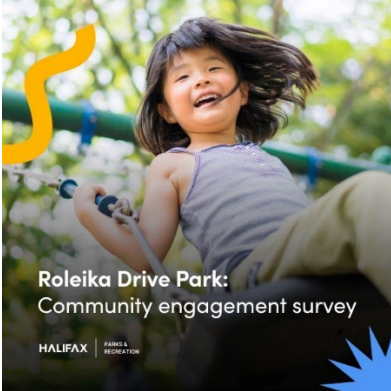
Four versions are available: plain text, plain language, condensed and condensed & plain language. To learn more about the strategy please visit our [website](#).



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ROLEIKA DRIVE PARK ENGAGEMENT SURVEY



We want to hear from you! Share feedback on what improvements you would like to see Roleika Drive Park by completing our online survey.

Roleika Drive Park — located near Caledonia Road and Roleika Drive — is a small park with playground equipment that will soon need to be updated. Community feedback received through the online survey will help inform future park investments and planning.

Learn more and take the [survey](#) by Oct. 17

CANADA POST MAIL DISRUPTION

Ongoing Canada Post strike may cause delays in receiving property tax bills and vendor payments. The September tax bill remains due on Oct. 31, 2025.

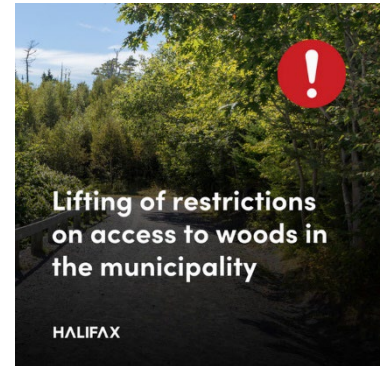
Residents can sign up for property tax email or text notifications, request a free reprint of their bill, or explore alternate payment options such as online banking, pre-authorized debit, or paying in person at a Customer Contact Centre.

Vendors are encouraged to sign up for electronic payments or submit invoices directly by email. Cheque pickup at Customer Service Centres can also be arranged with advance notice and ID.

For full details and payment options, visit halifax.ca or call 311.

WOODS BAN, BURN BAN LIFTED

On Friday, Aug. 29, the Province of Nova Scotia lifted restrictions on access to woods within the Halifax region as part of a partial lifting of the Aug. 5, 2025 Woods Restrictions Proclamation.



On Sept. 26, the burn ban was lifted in all counties in Nova Scotia except for Annapolis County.

The municipality is asking residents to continue to exercise caution in wooded areas and to report any signs of fire to 911.

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.



We had a great time at the Annual Community Bike Ride. Thank you to all who participated!



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TAX RELIEF FOR NONPROFIT AND CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS

The 2026/27 Tax Relief Program is now OPEN for applications.

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 [here](#), or simply use the search bar on HRM’s home page.

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

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 [here](#).



AFFORDABLE HOUSING GRANT PROGRAM FUNDING

Regional Council has directed the Chief Administrative Officer to allocate \$1.5 million from the Density Bonus Reserve to fund affordable housing projects in the regional centre.

The program provides project-specific grants to non-profit and charitable housing providers for new construction, conversions, repairs, acquisitions and studies.

The AHGP supports municipal priorities to increase the supply of affordable housing and to improve and maintain existing stock. Since 2021, the program has awarded \$14 million to create or preserve more than 730 units and rooms of affordable housing.





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On Sept. 10, I had the privilege to meet with the Italian Consulate in Halifax Marilisa Benigno, the Consulate General Italy from Montreal and the Captain & Crew from the Italian Navy Vessel Orsa Maggiore.

SPRING AVENUE ROAD WORK

Construction has begun on Spring Avenue (Belle Vista Dr to Pembroke Court). It started on Sept. 15 and is expected to be completed on Dec. 22.

The project includes asphalt milling and repaving, curb and sidewalk repairs, sidewalk extension, traffic calming, storm sewer upgrades, crosswalk improvements (including RRFBs), transit stop upgrades, landscaping, and other reinstatement work.

As a result, temporary parking restrictions and Halifax Transit impacts may occur. Advance notice will be provided and signage will indicate closures.

If someone at your address has difficulty with uneven surfaces, gravel, or steps, please contact us to arrange alternate access.

We appreciate your patience and cooperation!

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.

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 until Friday, Oct. 31 at 11:59 p.m.

Learn more [here](#).





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HEMLOCK WOOLLY ADELGID TREATMENT AND MANAGEMENT PLAN



Regional Council has approved the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA) Treatment and Management Plan to protect eastern hemlock populations in the municipality.

HWA is an invasive pest first detected in Nova Scotia in 2017 and in Halifax in 2023. Left untreated, it can decimate native eastern hemlock forests within a few years.

The plan outlines how Halifax will survey, mark, and treat hemlock trees, focusing initially on 15 priority parks. Treatment will be carried out by a combination of municipal staff, contractors, and supervised volunteers, using chemical methods that remain the only effective option to reduce HWA's spread.

Its goal is to preserve healthy hemlock stands in Halifax for current and future generations.

YOUTH POET LAUREATE

Applications have opened for the 2026 Youth Poet Laureate Program.

The program helps young poets (aged 14-18) to hone their writing skills, receive mentorship and engage with their peers on issues that shape our region.

Learn more [here](#) and apply by 5 p.m. on Oct. 31.

ROAD WORK COMING TO WOODLAWN ROAD

Road improvements are coming to Woodlawn Road. The work started in late September and is expected to be completed by mid-December.

The improvements include partial asphalt removal and resurfacing, curb and sidewalk replacements, line painting, landscaping, and driveway tie-ins.

Parking may be impacted, and Halifax Transit stops may be temporarily affected. If someone at your address has difficulty with uneven surfaces, gravel, or steps, please contact us to arrange alternate access.

We appreciate your patience and cooperation!

YOUTH SERVICES PLAN



The Halifax Regional Municipality is inviting youth to join Parks & Recreation's Youth Services Plan Team and contribute to the development of the 2026-29 Youth Services Plan.

Applications will remain open until Thursday, Oct. 16. The Youth Services Plan identifies key issues affecting youth across the region and helps guide future youth-focused programs and services, particularly in recreation. Applicants must reside in the region and be between 13 and 24 years of age.

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



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PARK 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.



I was honoured to participate in the filming of a documentary on our Town Crier Will Brewer.

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 [here](#) by Oct. 30.



Councillor St-Amand and I with our Town Crier Will Brewer at the Mayor's International Student Reception.



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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!

TRICK-OR-TREATING TIPS FOR ACCESSIBILITY



Did you know that there are around 400,000 children in Canada who identify as having a disability that may prevent them from trick-or-treating? This Halloween, we want to make sure everyone can enjoy a safe, fun, and inclusive experience.

Here are some tips to help make trick-or-treating accessible for everyone this Halloween:

1. If your house has stairs, consider setting them up on your driveway or front yard.
2. Clear the path to your trick-or-treating setup by moving vehicles and other obstructions.
3. Outdoor decorations are fun, but avoid those with strobing lights or sudden loud noises.
4. If you have pets, keep them safely inside the house and away from the trick-or-treaters.

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 COMMUNITY CRISIS SERVICE LAUNCHING IN DARTMOUTH, WOODLAWN AND COLE HARBOUR

Starting Oct. 6, residents in Dartmouth, Woodlawn and Cole Harbour will have access to a new community service called **CARE – Crisis Assistance and Response**.

CARE is a pilot program that provides in-person support for people 16 and older experiencing non-emergency, non-violent crises related to mental health, substance use and personal well-being. The service offers a safe, trauma-informed alternative to calling police or other first responders when that may not be the best fit.

About CARE

- Provides in-person help when someone is in distress.
- Offers support such as:
 - calming and de-escalating a crisis
 - making a safety plan
 - helping someone get to a safe place
 - connecting people to community supports after the crisis

CARE staff are specially trained in trauma-informed care, harm reduction, mental health first aid, suicide prevention and cultural humility. They are prepared to respond respectfully and effectively to people from diverse communities, including African Nova Scotians, Indigenous Peoples, 2SLGBTQIA+ and neurodiverse residents.

Implementation and partnerships

Implementation of the CARE Team is a direct deliverable of the Regional Council-approved [Public Safety Strategy](#). It will fulfill the need for community-based, trauma-informed support that is community-led.

The CARE Team pilot program is delivered through partnership with:

- **211 Nova Scotia** – first point of contact and call assessment
- **Souls Harbour Rescue Mission** – provides the mobile CARE Team
- **Municipal Community Safety team** – oversees the program, evaluation and coordination

Service hours and pilot area

In the pilot phase, the CARE Team operates:

- Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.
- Serving Dartmouth (within the circumferential highway – Highway 111), Woodlawn and Cole Harbour

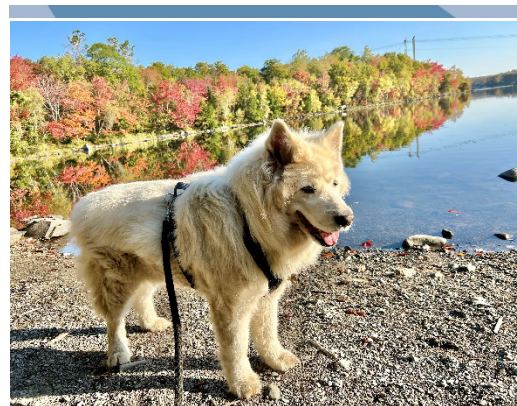
As part of the phased pilot project, the service will expand to 24 hours a day, seven days a week in January 2026.

How to access CARE

- **Call 211.** A trained navigator will assess the situation and, if it qualifies for CARE, dispatch a mobile CARE team from Souls Harbour.
- The CARE Mobile Team will then come in-person to provide support.

CARE is a consent-based service. It does not respond to emergencies involving violence or weapons. In those cases, call 911.

For more information about the CARE program, visit our [website](#).



Spirit would like to wish everyone a Happy Fall!



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DARTMOUTH EAST - BURNSIDE

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.

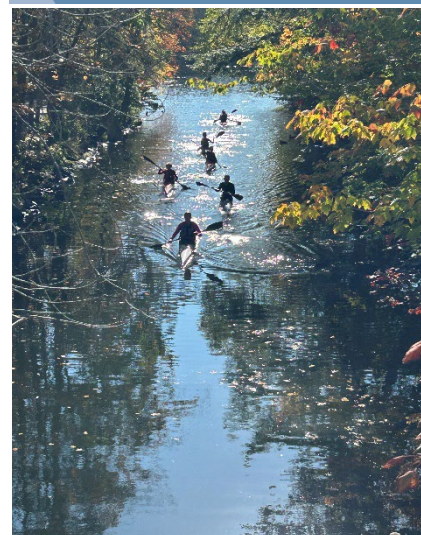
Learn more [here](#).

MAINTAINING LAWNS AND GARDENING

As the growing season continues, residents are reminded that they are responsible for maintaining the strip of land between the sidewalk and the road, known as the right-of-way - typically covered with grass. While the municipality previously mowed some right-of-ways, especially along major streets, that approach changed with recent budget adjustments. For the 2025 season, maintenance is the responsibility of the adjacent property owner.

Under the Streets By-law (S-300), grass in adjacent rights-of-way must be kept trimmed to a height of 15 cm (about six inches). Property owners may also create boulevard gardens with perennials like flowers, ferns, and native grasses, which attract pollinators and add beauty to neighbourhoods. Plants must be kept under 1 meter tall, or 0.6 meters near intersections or crosswalks.

Ecological gardening is encouraged throughout properties. Perennial native plants support pollinators, often require less water than sod, and help keep properties from becoming “unsightly” or “dangerous”—such as when dry lawns pose a fire risk.



Shubie Canal in Fall



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DARTMOUTH EAST - BURNSIDE

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	

VOLUNTEER CONFERENCE

Spots are filling up for our 2025 Volunteer Conference, taking place on Friday, November 21. This year's workshops will cover:



- Basic financial management for volunteer organizations
- Building inclusive and supportive communities by working smarter, not harder
- Cultivating community panel
- Exploring socially prescribed volunteering
- Gen V: Empowering the next generation of volunteers
- Making tech work for you: Tools for volunteers, boards and non-profits
- An introduction to grant writing
- Community event planning
- Conflict as opportunity
- From story to solution: Community voices in a changing world
- Micro neighbourliness
- Volunteer Management 101

Register now [here](#).

SHARED MICROMOBILITY PILOT PHASE 2 LAUNCHES

Phase 2 of the Shared Micromobility Pilot launched on Sept. 3. The service boundary grows and e-scooters increase from 300 to 600.

With more riders and students back to school, ride safe: follow speed limits, don't ride on sidewalks and park in designated zones.



I am happy to see a crosswalk installed at the intersection of Ave du Portage and Terrebonne. A friendly reminder that there is no parking within 5 metres of a crosswalk. This rule is in place for safety for pedestrians crossing the street.



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DARTMOUTH EAST - BURNSIDE

UPCOMING REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETINGS

There are two Regional Council meetings scheduled for October. Regional Council meetings are held on Tuesdays:

- Oct. 7
- Oct. 28

Check out the full schedule of upcoming meetings – including committees [here](#). Meeting agendas (including the specific start time of 10 a.m. or 1 p.m.) and a link to watch the video are generally available by the Friday prior to the meeting. Reports on the items that councillors vote on are available and are linked throughout the meeting agenda.

COMMUNITY COUNCIL SCHEDULE AND AGENDA

The Harbour East – Marine Drive Community Council normally meets on the first Thursday of each month, at 6 p.m. in the HEMDCC Meeting Space, Main Floor Alderney Gate, 60 Alderney Drive, Dartmouth. Meeting dates, time and location are subject to change. You can find agendas, report, and minutes [online](#).

The HEMDCC webcast will be live on HRM’s [YouTube channel](#) and [agenda postings](#). Stay tuned for the video link to be shared closer to the next HEMDCC meeting, scheduled for Thursday, Nov. 6.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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.

We also acknowledge the histories and legacies of the African Nova Scotian people and communities that have been here for more than 400 years.

The Acadians founded the first permanent settlement in North America on this land that would later become Nova Scotia. The Acadian people have contributed to the economic, cultural and social vitality of our province for more than 400 years. We recognize that the identity of the Acadian people is defined by its history, its language, its culture, its customs.

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Currently serving on:
Harbour East Marine Drive Community Council
Regional Centre Community Council
Board of Police Commissioners
Environment & Sustainability Standing Committee
Executive Standing Committee
Halifax Regional Library Board
Shubenacadie Canal Commission
Woodlawn High School Advisory Committee