



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

WELCOME NOVEMBER

As the crisp air settles in and autumn leaves give way to early signs of winter, November brings a moment to reflect, reconnect, and prepare for the season ahead.

In this edition, we're highlighting municipal initiatives, upcoming events, and important updates from around HRM. Whether you're looking to get involved, stay informed, or simply enjoy what makes our community special, there's something here for everyone.



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

TABLE OF CONTENTS

WELCOME NOVEMBER..... 1

TABLE OF CONTENTS..... 1
OCTOBER MEETING DATES 2
DATES TO NOTE 2
INDIGENOUS DISABILITY AWARENESS MONTH 2
..... 2
REMEMBRANCE DAY 2
NEW COMMUNITY CRISIS SERVICE 3
COUNCIL EXPLORES TIERED DEED TRANSFER TAX..... 3
STUDENT TRANSIT PASS 4
VOLUNTARY WATER CONSERVATION MEASURES..... 4
ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE TOWN HALL..... 5
LEAF AND YARD WASTE REMOVAL 6
WINDSOR STREET EXCHANGE CONSTRUCTION 6
WASTE COLLECTION TIMING RULES 6
FALL 2025 LEADERSHIP & COMMUNITY TRAINING WORKSHOPS 7
OFF-LEASH DOG PARKS 7
HFX ALERT 8
COUNCIL MOVES TO RESTRICT INFILLING IN DARTMOUTH COVE 8
THE PEOPLE PROJECT – COMMUNITY MEDIATION PROGRAM 8
SHUBENACADIE LAKES FLOODPLAN 8
COMMUNITY EVENTS..... 9
COMMUNITY MEETING SPACE..... 12
COUNCILLOR JOHN YOUNG 12
INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE..... 12



OCTOBER MEETING DATES

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

Regional Council:

- Tuesday, Nov. 18 at 10 a.m.

Budget Committee Meeting:

- Wednesday, Nov. 19 at 9:30 a.m.
- Friday, Nov. 21 at 9:30 a.m.

North West Community Council: Monday,

- Monday, Nov. 10 at 6 p.m.

Standing Committees:

Appeals Standing Committee

- Nov. 13 at 10 a.m.

African Descent Advisory Committee

- Nov. 13 at 6 p.m.

Audit & Finance Standing Committee

- Nov. 25 at 1 p.m.

Special Events Advisory Committee

- TBD

DATES TO NOTE

November is Indigenous Disability Awareness Month

Nov. 8 – Indigenous Veterans Day

Nov. 11 – Remembrance Day

Nov. 20 – Transgender Day of Remembrance

INDIGENOUS DISABILITY AWARENESS MONTH



November is Indigenous Disability Awareness Month, which raises awareness about and celebrates the significant social, economic and cultural contributions that Indigenous people experiencing disability bring to our communities. It's also an opportunity to mobilize to address the complex, ongoing intersectional challenges Indigenous people face in their everyday lives.

Indigenous persons who experience disability often face additional barriers and discrimination when seeking support for their disability-related needs.

2025 marks the fourth inaugural year that Halifax Regional Municipality recognizes November as Indigenous Disability Awareness Month.

REMEMBRANCE DAY

On Nov. 11 each year, Canadians stand in collective remembrance of all who have fallen in the military service of their country. Royal Canadian Legion branches host Remembrance Day ceremonies in communities across the country and abroad.



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Find your local Remembrance Day Ceremony by clicking [here](#).



The program is part of the municipality's Public Safety Strategy and is delivered in partnership with:

- **211 Nova Scotia** – intake and assessment
- **Souls Harbour Rescue Mission** – mobile response team
- **Municipal Community Safety Office** – oversight and coordination

NEW COMMUNITY CRISIS SERVICE



CARE Team

Community-based Crisis Assistance and Response

If you or someone you know is in distress related to substance use, mental health or well-being.

Call 2-1-1 to access the CARE Team

A new pilot program called CARE – Crisis Assistance and Response – is now available in Dartmouth, Woodlawn, and Cole Harbour.

CARE provides in-person support for individuals aged 16 and older experiencing non-emergency, non-violent crises related to mental health, substance use, or personal well-being.

This trauma-informed, community-led service offers an alternative to traditional emergency response, helping individuals de-escalate, create safety plans, access safe spaces, and connect with community supports.

CARE staff are trained in harm reduction, mental health first aid, suicide prevention, and cultural humility, with a focus on respectful support for diverse communities.

COUNCIL EXPLORES TIERED DEED TRANSFER TAX

At the Tuesday, Oct. 7 meeting, Halifax Regional Council voted to send a letter to the Province of Nova Scotia requesting legislative changes that would allow the municipality to adopt a tiered deed transfer tax structure.

The move follows a staff recommendation to replace the current flat 1.5 per cent tax with a progressive, tiered structure, aimed at improving fairness and increasing revenue for major capital projects. Under the proposed model, lower-value property sales would see reduced taxes, while higher-value transactions and luxury homes would contribute more. Staff estimate the changes could generate at least \$25 million in additional annual revenue.

Council's decision means the municipality will now request amendments to the Municipal Government Act to permit tiered and luxury rates, raise the maximum allowable tax to 2.5 per cent, and close existing legislative exemptions.

Because deed transfer taxes are governed by provincial law, any changes must first be reviewed and approved by the Province. If supported, the Minister of Municipal Affairs



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would have final authority to approve or amend the requested legislative updates before they take effect.

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>

VOLUNTARY WATER CONSERVATION MEASURES

Water Conservation Tips



Only flush toilet paper, pee, and poo. Only flush when necessary.



Turn off the tap while brushing your teeth.



Don't use hot water to thaw frozen foods. Take foods out of the freezer earlier.



Don't run the tap to get cold water, keep a water pitcher in the fridge.



Check your toilet for leaks. halifaxwater.ca/finding-water-leaks



Take shorter showers. 5-minute shower = 50 L. 25-minute shower = 250 L. *With standard shower head.



Modern dishwashers use far less water than washing dishes by hand.



Ensure the dishwasher has a full load before you turn it on.



Installing water-saving shower heads can save 30 litres every ten minutes.



Check faucets and pipes for leaks. Even a small drip can waste 75 litres + per day.



Ensure the washing machine has a full load before turning it on.



Reuse cooking water for watering household plants.

For more information visit halifaxwater.ca



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



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ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE TOWN HALL



Join us on Wednesday, Nov. 5 from 6–8:30 p.m. for the Accessibility Advisory Committee's Annual Town Hall.

The event will take place in Paul O'Regan Hall at the Halifax Central Library, with options to participate virtually, or watch the livestream on YouTube.

This is an opportunity to hear updates on municipal accessibility initiatives, ask questions, and share feedback with staff from across HRM.

Visit halifax.ca/accessibilitytownhall for more information or contact the Office of the Municipal Clerk by phone at 902.490.4210.

VOLUNTEER CONFERENCE



Spots are filling up for our 2025 Volunteer Conference, taking place on Friday, Nov. 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 at

halifax.ca/VolunteerConference.

INDEPENDENT LIVING NOVA SCOTIA HOLIDAY GALA

Join Independent Living Nova Scotia for the ultimate East Coast kitchen party! Celebrate the holiday season at our fully inclusive Holiday Gala & Dance featuring Signal Hill.

Venue: Halifax Marriott Harbourfront in their Nova Scotia Ballroom (2nd floor)

Date: Friday, December 12, 2025

Time: 7-11:30 PM (Doors open at 5:30 PM)

Tickets: <https://www.zeffy.com/en-CA/ticketing/ilns-holiday-gala-and-dance-ft-signal-hill>

Each ticket includes:

- 3-course meal
- Unlimited Polaroids from the BoothAlmighty photobooth
- Musical performances by Signal Hill



LEAF AND YARD WASTE REMOVAL



Leaf and yard waste that doesn't fit into the green cart belongs in paper yard

waste bags.

Did you know that each household that receives curbside collection can place up to twenty yard waste bags out on collection day? This makes disposing of leaf and yard waste easy.

Reminder that leaf and yard waste

- Can only go out on green cart day
- Belongs in paper yard waste bags (no plastic is accepted)
- Cannot contain grass clippings

For more information about leaf and yard waste visit:

www.halifax.ca/yardwaste

For tips and tricks with grass clippings visit:

Halifax.ca/Grasscycling

WINDSOR STREET EXCHANGE CONSTRUCTION

The Halifax Regional Municipality is advising residents of upcoming traffic disruptions in and around the Windsor Street Exchange area.

These traffic impacts are necessary to support early construction work for the Windsor Street Exchange project, which aims to improve

safety, reduce travel delays, and enhance sustainable and accessible mobility for all users.

Lane drops on Highway 111

There will be temporary evening and overnight lane reductions on Highway 111 to allow for the realignment of traffic lanes and the creation of a workspace for the future construction of the new overpass.

Minor traffic delays are expected for two to three weeks. This overnight work will take place after the evening rush hour to minimize impacts on traffic flow.

Upcoming local street impacts

Traffic delays are anticipated on Forrester, Bayne, and Mackintosh streets to accommodate early construction near the Windsor Street Exchange. More specific timing and details will be shared as planning progresses.

Impacts to Halifax Transit

Impacted Halifax Transit routes will follow marked detours during these traffic impacts. See all active Halifax Transit service disruptions [here](#).

To learn more about the Windsor Street Exchange project, click [here](#).

WASTE COLLECTION TIMING RULES

Waste can be placed curbside no earlier than 7 p.m. the evening before the scheduled collection day and no later than 7 a.m. the morning of the scheduled collection day. Remove any materials not collected by 9 p.m. on the scheduled collection day. Call 311 for collection issues



FIELD MAINTENANCE STANDARDS



Playing field maintenance

The municipality is committed to maintaining playing fields for residents to use and enjoy, including sports fields, ball diamonds and all-weather surfaces.

Parks & Recreation has services standards for maintaining playing fields, outlining what residents can expect, including maintenance frequency and the types of activities performed, for the over 300 playing fields across the region.

Municipal employees maintain fields based on their classification. This may involve daily, weekly or biweekly maintenance. Playing fields maintenance includes:

- grooming/dragging infields (ball diamonds);
- repairing infields, batter's boxes, pitching mounds (ball diamonds);
- line painting (ball diamonds/sports fields);
- aerating, overseeding, top dressing and fertilizing (ball diamonds/sports fields); and
- vegetation control (ball diamonds/sports fields).

Fields may occasionally be closed due to rain outs. To check field status, visit halifax.ca/FieldConditions. For more information on playing field maintenance, scan the QR code or visit halifax.ca/Sport-Field-Maintenance.



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.

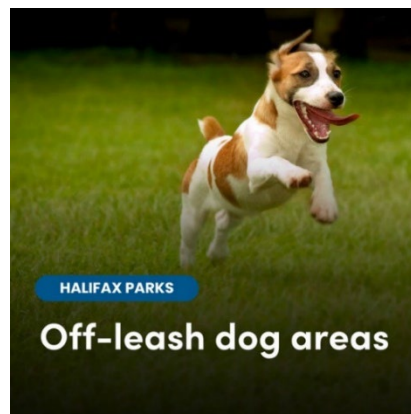
Workshops run from October to December and cover topics like neighbourhood placemaking, board governance, conflict resolution, and mapping community resources.

Sessions take place in locations across the HRM:

- 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.

OFF-LEASH DOG PARKS



Wondering where your pup can run off-leash? Find details at: www.halifax.ca/parks-recrea...

Please note that dogs must be on-leash in municipal parks unless signage indicates otherwise.



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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>

COUNCIL MOVES TO RESTRICT INFILLING IN DARTMOUTH COVE

At the Tuesday, Oct. 7 meeting, Halifax Regional Council voted 12-3 to adopt planning amendments that would restrict infilling in Dartmouth Cove, following a public hearing.

The decision follows a series of motions dating back to 2023 that directed staff to explore options to manage and regulate water lot development in Dartmouth Cove. While staff had recommended deferring changes until completion of the [Downtown Dartmouth Waterfront Revitalization \(DDWR\) Project](#), Council instead chose one of three alternative approaches presented in the report; a full restriction on infilling within Dartmouth Cove.

Council's decision aims to balance environmental, recreational, and development considerations while ensuring future planning for the Dartmouth waterfront proceeds in a coordinated manner.

The amendments will now be reviewed by the Province of Nova Scotia to determine whether they are consistent with provincial interests before taking effect. Provincial staff have 15 days to assess whether the changes align with

provincial interests, followed by a 30-day period for the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing to approve, amend, or refuse the amendments.

THE PEOPLE PROJECT – COMMUNITY MEDIATION PROGRAM



Reach out to be connected to a community mediator in your area

902.422.1501

[LEARN MORE](#)



Halifax Regional Council approved a one-year \$100,000 pilot in July 2025 for a [Community Mediation Program](#), delivered in partnership with United Way Maritimes.

The effort offers free, voluntary, confidential, and unbiased mediation services to residents dealing with common neighborhood disputes like noise, parking, fence lines, property boundaries, and shared driveway conflicts.

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



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COMMUNITY EVENTS



MP Braedon Clark, District 16 Councilor Jean St. Armand, District 15 Councilor Billy Gillis and I at the 2025 20th Annual Sackville Rivers Association Dinner/Auction



Rising Sun Trail Park Playground Opening



Elizabeth Fry Fundraiser at the Halifax Forum



2025 Halifax Regional RCMP Annual Stakeholders Meeting



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2025 JCANS Gala



2025 Zambia Independence Day Celebration



2025 Lucasville Tea Cheque Presentation to the LCA



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2025 Truth and Reconciliation Day



2025 Road to Economic Prosperity 6th Annual Summit



06 DECEMBER 3 PM **TICKETS \$50**
(+APPLICABLE FEES)

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East Coast
2025



2025 Pockwock and Tomahawk Watershed Tour



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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:

Nov. 5, 2025
Nov. 26, 2025
Dec. 3, 2025
Dec. 17, 2025

COUNCILLOR JOHN YOUNG

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

- Northwest Community Council
- Transportation Standing Committee
- 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”

Think First

“A wise person fills their head before emptying their mouth”