



COUNCILLOR JANET STEELE

DISTRICT 12 NEWSLETTER

TIMBERLEA - BEECHVILLE - CLAYTON PARK - WEDGEWOOD

A MESSAGE FROM COUNCILLOR STEELE

Happy November, District 12!

The leaves are now falling off the trees, and before we know it, the winter and holiday season will be here.

Each year on Nov. 11, we pause to honour the courage, service, and sacrifice of Canadians who have served and continue to serve to make our country and world a better place. I encourage you to take part in a Remembrance Day ceremony this year to pay tribute to those who have fallen.

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



REMEMBRANCE DAY CEREMONIES IN DISTRICT 12

MacDonald Memorial Legion

Tuesday, Nov. 11. Ceremony begins at 10:55 a.m.

231 Greenhead Road, Lakeside

Korean War Veterans Memorial Garden

Tuesday, Nov. 11. Ceremony begins at 10:45 a.m.

59 Stratford Way, Clayton Park

HRM BUDGET 2026/27

On Nov. 19, the Budget Committee will begin discussions on the 2026/27 HRM budget. During this budget direction debate, councillors will review proposed service enhancements and reductions to determine which should be included in the upcoming budget.

If you have thoughts on our current service levels or suggestions for changes, especially in light of ongoing affordability challenges, please don't hesitate to reach out by phone or email.



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BEECHVILLE, LAKESIDE, TIMBERLEA COMMUNITY CORNER

BLT Community Centre Update



I am disappointed to inform you that there is another delay with the opening of the BLT Community Centre. The proposed new date is now end of February 2026.

Early in the project, there were delays due to unforeseen site conditions that required additional rock breaking, excavation, removal of organic material, and bringing in additional backfill. There were also weather delays in the early stages. Supply chain delays necessitated design changes to replace components with those more readily available. Most recently, there were problems with the gym floor slab levelling as well as shortages of skilled trades.

Be assured that I will continue to monitor the centre's progress and ask for regular staff updates. Recreation programming for the winter session will continue to run out of 1300 St. Margarets Bay Road at the Youth Worx site, with additional programs running out of our satellite locations.



Proposed Amendments to Brunello Links Development Agreement

ZZap Consulting Inc., on behalf of the property owner, has submitted an application to amend the existing development agreement for the Brunello Links lands in Timberlea. The proposed changes aim to refine the design and construction of future residential phases east of Timberlea Village Parkway.

Key Proposal Highlights:

- **Golf Course Safety Margins:** Adjustments to the boundaries for holes 14 and 15.
- **Road Layout:** Modifications to the layout of future roads.
- **Land Use Designation Expansion:** Broader application of the "Rc" designation to support higher density development.
- **Setback Reductions:** Side yard setbacks for single unit dwellings with 40-foot frontage reduced from 10 feet to 8 feet.

Detailed development plans, including rationale, site maps, and concept comparisons, are available for public review at the Planning Applications office (5251 Duke Street, Suite 300, Halifax).

Public Engagement Opportunity

A Public Open House will be held on **Monday, Nov. 10, 2025**, from **6:30–8:30 PM** at **Timberlea Lakeside Beechville Senior Elementary School**, 24 James Street, Timberlea. Residents are encouraged to attend, ask questions, and share feedback.

Feedback deadline: Comments will be accepted until **Nov. 24, 2025**.

Contact for more information: Matt Conlin,
Planner, Development Services
902.719.9457
conlinm@halifax.ca



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CLAYTON PARK, WEDGEWOOD COMMUNITY CORNER

Glenbourne Park

Some residents in the Clayton Park West area have contacted me about the work at the Glenbourne BMX Park. It is being upgraded by contractor Dirt Love Designs. In addition, the off-leash dog area will be fenced. This work should be completed within the next week or two.

Save the Date: Ageing As Adventure Workshop

Join Dr. Bill Randall on Nov. 27 from 1:30-4:30 p.m. at the Canada Games Centre for a workshop on reimagining your later life. Pre-registration is required. [Click here](#) to register. I hope to see you there!

Mainland Common Artificial Fields Closure

The Mainland Common Artificial Fields, located at 210 Thomas Raddall Drive, will be closed on Nov. 12 for the remainder of the season to upgrade the field lights to LED. Thank you for your patience while this work is completed.

Rockingham Heritage Society Annual Fall Walk at Belchers Marsh



It was a beautiful day to attend the Annual Fall Walk at Belchers Marsh and learn more about the history of Clayton Park. Thanks to Rockingham Heritage Society President Glenn Taylor for leading the event.

Halifax Northwest Trails Association (HNWTA) Trail Maintenance Volunteer Work Party Event



Thanks to the organizers and to all the volunteers that came out on Oct. 18 to do maintenance on the Mainland Common Loop Trail. Many hands made light work.

I know that the trail users in Halifax Regional Municipality appreciate the work of HNWTA.

Christmas Craft Fair

St. Peter's Anglican Church Birch Cove
3 Dakin Drive, Halifax
Corner of the Bedford Highway &
Kearney Lake Road

Saturday, November 15, 2025
9:00am-2:00pm

*Beautiful quality handmade goods,
baking & preserves!*

Admission:
Adults \$3.00
Children Free

DOOR PRIZES!

www.stpetersbirchcove.org

HALIFAX

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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 our [website](#) for more information or contact the Office of the Municipal Clerk by phone at 902.490.4210.



WACKY WEDNESDAY WOMEN WALKERS 25TH ANNIVERSARY



Congratulations to the Wacky Wednesday Women Walkers on their 25th Anniversary on October 25, 2025. It was an honour to present the 19 strong group with a proclamation on behalf of Halifax Regional Municipality. I was interested to learn that Halifax Recreation was a catalyst for the group's formation. Rain or shine, 10 -15 walkers meet every Wednesday to enjoy the many beautiful trails in HRM. Thanks to Wendy McDonald for the invitation to join the celebratory event.

NOTICE OF FORTHCOMING RECRUITMENT CAMPAIGN FOR COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL AND EXTERNAL BOARDS

Applications for the annual fall recruitment period will launch on Wednesday, November 5, 2025 at 12:00 p.m. Information about vacancies and how to apply will be available on this [webpage](#) following the launch of applications.

The municipality values community participation and service as fundamental to the success of the community. We strive to have appointments made by Council that reflect the diversity of the communities that it serves, and we seek to appoint members of the community who bring skills, expertise, and perspectives that contribute to good governance.

For information on eligibility, qualifications, and the selection process, read the frequently asked questions section below. For more detail, you can also review the [Public Appointments Policy](#).

For concerns about computer or internet access, or to request other accommodations during the application process, contact the Municipal Clerks Office.



Congratulations to News 95.7 on their 20th anniversary.

Thank you for keeping HRM residents informed and engaged with municipal issues.

Pictured with Dan Ahlstrand at the News 95.7 celebration at the Westin Hotel.



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HIGHWAY 102 WEST CORRIDOR SPECIAL PLANNING AREA

Residents are invited to participate in shaping the future of the Highway 102 West Corridor Special Planning Area (SPA) by attending a public open house on **Wednesday, Nov. 19, 2025, at St. Peter's Anglican Church, 3 Dakin Drive, Halifax.**

This open house marks the first phase of public engagement for the SPA, a 255-hectare area west of Highway 102 between Kearney Lake Road and Lacewood Drive. Designated as a Special Planning Area in May 2025, the site is being considered for a new complete community with housing, parks, transportation infrastructure, and public services.

The open house will feature poster boards detailing the planning process, background studies, and landowner proposals. Municipal planning staff will be available to answer questions and collect feedback on topics such as housing types, land uses, transportation connections, and public infrastructure.

Drop-in sessions are available at the following times:

- 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
- 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
- 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

No registration is required, and there will be no formal presentations - just an opportunity to learn and share your thoughts.

Public input will help guide the development of planning policies and regulations for the area. An online survey will also be available soon, and a second phase of engagement will follow once draft policies are ready.

It is important to highlight that Halifax Regional Council does not participate in development approvals in Special Planning Areas. These decisions are made by the Province.

For more information or to provide feedback, visit the project [webpage](#).

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

Registration closes Nov. 16. [Register now here.](#)

DIWALI FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS 2025



It was an honour to participate in the Oct. 18 Diwali Carnival Festival of Lights organized by the Indian Festivals Club of Nova Scotia. Diwali, celebrated around the globe, represents the victory of light over darkness and good over evil. Diwali also celebrates new beginnings and the strengthening of family and community ties.



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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.

43RD ANNUAL NOVA SCOTIA FALLEN PEACE OFFICERS' MEMORIAL SERVICE

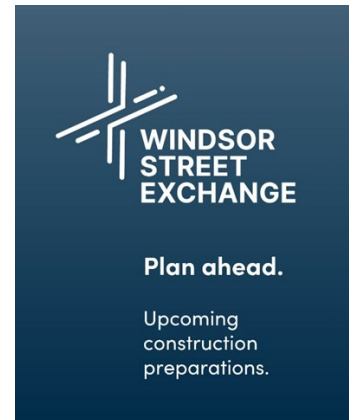


The annual service honours peace officers who died in the line of duty. It was a reminder of the selflessness of those who made the ultimate sacrifice. It was a privilege to attend as an expression of thanks for their dedicated service.

WINDSOR STREET EXCHANGE

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](#).



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

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 our [website](#).

UNDERSTANDING TRAFFIC CALMING IN HALIFAX

Traffic calming is an important part of Halifax Regional Municipality's (HRM) commitment to safer, more walkable communities. Through measures like speed humps, curb extensions, and raised crosswalks, HRM works to reduce vehicle speeds and improve safety for all road users.

How It Works

Guided by the [Traffic Calming Administrative Order](#), traffic calming assessments apply to streets that are:

- Local or minor collector roads
- Primarily residential
- Not multi-lane
- Posted at 50 km/h or less
- Longer than 150 metres
- Not providing direct access to emergency services buildings

Requesting an Assessment

Residents can request a traffic calming assessment by calling or emailing 311 at contactus@311.halifax.ca.

Before submitting, check the [Traffic Calming Assessments & Infrastructure Map](#) to see if your street has already been reviewed.

Tracking Progress

The map is updated monthly with assessment statuses and annually with completed installations. Residents can search by address and click on map features for detailed information.

Traffic calming reduces speeding, improves pedestrian safety, and supports HRM's Road Safety Strategy, including the Vision Zero goal to eliminate traffic-related fatalities and serious injuries by 2038.

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



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FIREWORKS

Whether celebrating Canada Day, New Year's Eve, Natal Day, or a recognized religious holiday, Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM) encourages residents to prioritize safety and community well-being when considering fireworks.

Attend Professional Displays

Residents are strongly encouraged to attend professional fireworks displays rather than using consumer fireworks. These events are planned with safety and community impact in mind.

Burn Restrictions & Fireworks Ban

Burn restrictions are updated daily at 2 p.m. and can be checked on the [Nova Scotia Burn Safe Map](#). If a burn ban is in effect, all fireworks are prohibited, even on designated holidays. Violating the ban can result in a \$25,000 fine.

Permitted Dates for Consumer Fireworks:

Canada Day (July 1)

Natal Day

New Year's Eve (Dec. 31/Jan. 1)

Recognized religious holidays

Outside of these dates a [noise exemption](#) must be requested.

Reporting Issues

For immediate safety concerns (e.g., fireworks during a fire ban or causing fire risk), call 911

For noise complaints in progress, call Halifax Regional Police at 902-490-5020

For non-urgent concerns, contact 311 by phone or email contactus@311.halifax.ca

For full guidelines, visit the [HRM Fireworks Safety Page](#).

OZANAM PLACE OFFICIAL OPENING

On Oct. 9, I attended the official opening of Ozanam Place. The facility will provide deeply affordable, supportive, permanent housing for residents of the 50+ demographic.

Ozanam Place is a special project of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul of Halifax. For more information on the society, please visit their [website](#).



With Josh Canning of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul of Halifax outside Ozanam Place

311 MUNICIPAL SERVICES AND INFORMATION

For routine municipal matters such as reporting potholes, requesting traffic calming assessments, garbage collection and much more, please call 311 or email contactus@311.halifax.ca. Please feel free to copy me on your email if this is not a routine matter.

When you call 311, your request is logged and tracked to ensure follow up and action by the appropriate department. Please be sure to advise the agent if you would like to receive a follow up from staff regarding your service request.

For more information about how to get in touch, please visit our [website](#).



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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 [webpage](#) 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.

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

CELEBRATE YOUR MILESTONE WITH A COMMEMORATIVE SCROLL

Are you or someone you know celebrating a milestone birthday or anniversary? You can request a commemorative scroll signed by both your district councillor and the Mayor!

To request one, simply email me at janet.steele@halifax.ca with the following details:

- Name of the individual or couple
- Occasion (birthday or anniversary)
- Date of the celebration
- Community they live in

We'll take care of the rest and ensure a scroll is prepared to mark the special occasion.

COUNCILLOR SLOW DOWN SIGNS

If you are interested in a slow-down sign for your lawn/personal property, please email me at janet.steele@halifax.ca. These signs are made of plastic and come with the lawn stakes for installation.

Please be informed that the District 12 "Please Drive Slowly" signs are NOT a traffic calming measure, and they have no authority to direct or slow down traffic, or make children safer on the streets.



ONLINE PROPERTY TAX MANAGEMENT

Did you know that you can manage your property taxes easily with e-billing and pre-authorized payments? Opt-in for email notifications for a copy of your latest tax bill**, overdue notices, charges against your property, by-law infraction bills or other charges or text notifications for pre-authorized payments and overdue tax bills.

**If you opt-in to receive a copy of your tax bill via email, you will not receive a copy in the mail.

Learn more and sign up online at [here](#).



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REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETINGS

There is one Regional Council meeting scheduled for November. Regional Council meetings are held on Tuesdays:

- Nov. 18

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 Halifax and West Community Council normally meets once a month on Tuesdays at 6 p.m. in Council Chambers. Meeting dates, time and location are subject to change. You can find agendas, report, and minutes [online](#).

Stay tuned for the video link to be shared closer to the next Halifax and West meeting, scheduled for Nov. 4.

Currently serving on:

Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee

Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee

Appeals Standing Committee

Halifax and West Community Council

Halifax Water Board of Commissioners

Canada Games Centre Board of Directors

Otter Lake Community Monitoring Committee

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Halifax is committed to strengthening its relationship with Indigenous communities and honouring the significant contributions of Indigenous peoples. Another way the municipality has demonstrated this is by formalizing the official Land Acknowledgement.

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

Land Acknowledgement

The Halifax Regional Municipality is located in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and traditional lands of the Mi'kmaq people. The municipality acknowledges the Peace and Friendship Treaties signed in this Territory and recognizes that we are all Treaty People.

AFRICAN NOVA SCOTIAN LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Halifax Regional Municipality recognizes that African Nova Scotians are a distinct founding people in Nova Scotia who have been a key part of the province's culture and history.



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