



COUNCILLOR KATHRYN MORSE
DISTRICT 10 NEWSLETTER
HALIFAX - BEDFORD BASIN WEST

UPCOMING OPEN HOUSE FOR SPECIAL PLANNING AREA

On Wednesday November 19 there will be a public engagement session in Rockingham for the “Highway 102 West Corridor Lands Special Planning Area”.

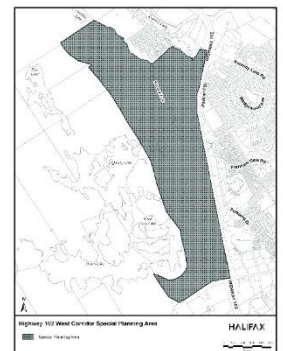
This Special Planning Area, designated by the Provincial government last May, includes lands next to Birch Cove Lake, Susie’s Lake, Washmill Lake, Quarry Lake and Charlie’s Lake. It is made up of approximately 255 hectares (630 acres) of mainly forested land located west of Highway 102 between Kearney Lake Road and Lacewood Drive (near Kent Building Supplies).

Since 2006 HRM's Regional Municipal Planning Strategy has designated the Highway 102 Lands lands as “Urban Settlement” (US) – a designation that identifies a potential growth area where sewer and water services may be extended to allow development. A comprehensive planning process is required before development can be permitted in this area. By designating the “Special Planning Area” in May 2025 the Minister started the comprehensive planning process which will identify needs for infrastructure, facilities and parks.

In the last few years, the Houston government has established 16 Special Planning Areas in HRM like the Highway 102 Corridor, with the stated purpose to fast-track housing development. Because Provincial legislation supercedes HRM legislation, final decisions about developments in provincially-designated Special Planning Areas are not made by Regional Council, they are made by the NS Minister of Growth and Development. If development in the Highway 102 Special Planning Area is approved by the provincial Minister, it will require extending water, sewer and other municipal services for approximately 11,500 housing units.

The Highway 102 Corridor Special Planning Area lands, which are privately owned, also overlap with areas some community groups hope will be included in the proposed Blue Mountain Birch Cove Lakes National Urban Park.

To learn more about the Highway 102 Special Planning Area and the Open House please visit our [website](#).





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DUTCH VILLAGE ROAD UPDATES

Crews will be completing the final gaps in the sidewalks on Dutch Village Road over the next 2-3 weeks. Winter operations managers have been onsite and are updating their plans for snow clearing on Dutch Village Road. The new sidewalk will create some additional work but I'm told having a curb on the west side of the street for the first time will make snow clearing easier for plow drivers.

The Dutch Village Road webpage has a new FAQ section with answers to residents' questions about design, timeline and safety improvements

I am meeting with staff on an on-going basis to get updates about the project. For the most up to date information about the project please keep an eye on my [Facebook page](#) and the project [website](#).

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.

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



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](#).



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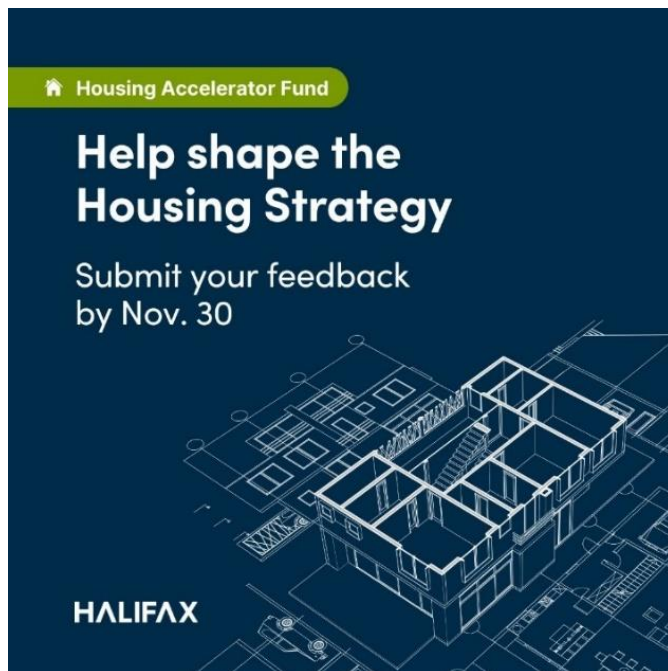
HALIFAX - BEDFORD BASIN WEST

HOUSING STRATEGY SURVEY

Housing is a foundation for health, equity and opportunity. The municipality is committed to supporting solutions that reflect these values through the creation of the region's Housing Strategy.

The Housing Strategy will help us better understand where the municipality can lead, support and collaborate.

The strategy will reflect the needs of our community and the realities of our housing system. Your input and perspective are important. Learn more and complete a short survey by visiting the enagage Halifax [website](#).



2025 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

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Register now at by visiting our [website](#)





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NEW FERRY BOARDING PROCEDURES

New ferry boarding procedures start Monday, Nov. 3.

1. Passengers are now asked to enter the waiting area single file. It might seem like a simple change but this will help keep everyone safer during boarding.
2. Passengers are now asked to let staff know if you or someone in your group may need extra assistance in the case of an emergency.

Please note that security screening hasn't changed. The only difference is that passengers are asked to enter the waiting area one at a time to allow security to conduct proper counts. We recommend arriving about five minutes early to allow time for this new process.

These changes are required to comply with recent updates to federal safety regulations and must be demonstrably implemented by Nov. 21, 2025

MOBILE FOOD MARKET

The Mobile Food Market has moved from the truck at Titus Park to nearby Centennial Arena (27 Vimy Ave) for the winter. You can find them in the Arena's Community Room on Saturday mornings between 9:30-11am. The market is open to all and offers a variety of affordably-priced fruit, vegetables, eggs and bread. With support from HRM and other partners, the Mobile Food Market has been a source of healthy food since 2015.

To find out more about the Mobile Food Market, please visit their [website](#)

TRIBUTE ON MAIN AVE

Forty local veterans are being remembered on a series of banners installed on Main Avenue in Fairview. The banners commemorate one woman and 39 men, all from Fairview, who served in World War I and World War II. Two merchant marine members are also featured.

The "Lest we Forget" project was organized by Don and Devonna Edwards with the Fairview Historical Society. Devonna researched the veterans, tracked down their families and organized the photos.

Don arranged the contributions from Mickey MacDonald, Micco Group, Veterans Affairs Canada, NS Minister for Military Relations, and the Fairview Legion (with help from Wayne Kelly). I also contributed to the project through District Capital funds.





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HALIFAX - BEDFORD BASIN WEST

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.



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.





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2024/25 HALIFACT CLIMATE ACTION IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE

Halifax Regional Council continues to advance HalifACT: Acting on Climate Together, the municipality's long-term climate action plan to reduce emissions, build resiliency and promote equity and economic development.

In 2024/25, several key initiatives progressed under HalifACT and related environmental programs:

- Public transit electrification: Completion of the Ragged Lake Transit Centre expansion and rollout of 60 electric buses to support zero-emission transit and service reliability.
- Home retrofit pilots: Deep energy retrofits achieved over 50 per cent energy savings, improving affordability and comfort for participating households.
- Renewable energy agreements: A long-term contract was signed to offset 45 per cent of corporate electricity use through planned wind turbine development, expected to reduce corporate emissions by approximately 25 per cent when operational in 2026.
- Resilient infrastructure standards: Updated design standards were adopted to improve safety, reduce costs, and ensure climate-adaptive capital investments.
- Public electric vehicle charging: 29 EV chargers of varying speeds were installed at parks and community centres across the municipality, supporting low-carbon transportation and reducing range anxiety.
- Flood resilience and stormwater management: City-wide floodplain mapping supported a pilot retrofit program in Spryfield and Upper

Hammonds Plains, enhancing public safety through targeted home upgrades.

- Scotiabank Centre retrofit: A major energy retrofit began in spring 2024, including LED lighting, building automation, heat recovery, and a natural gas generator. The project is expected to reduce energy use by 26 per cent and cut greenhouse gas emissions by approximately 800 tonnes of CO₂e annually.

HalifACT targets reflect the urgency of the climate crisis and require bold, sustained action. Continued investment will deliver meaningful environmental, social, and economic benefits for residents, businesses, and the municipality. For more information, read the [staff report](#).

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.

ONLINE PROPERTY TAX MANAGEMENT

Did you know that you can manage your property taxes easily online 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.

To sign up please visit our [website](#)



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HALIFAX - BEDFORD BASIN WEST

RECRUITMENT CAMPAIGN FOR COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL AND EXTERNAL BOARDS

The Municipal Clerk's Office will open applications for Halifax's annual fall recruitment 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 at 902-490-4210 or clerks@halifax.ca

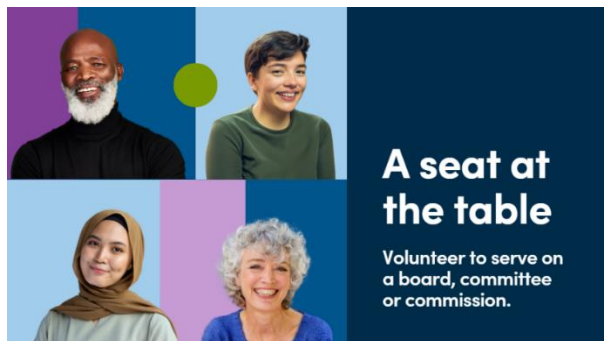
VOLUNTARY WATER CONSERVATION MEASURES

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

To conserve water, Halifax Water is requesting that all customers and those who live or work within a building serviced by Halifax Water, follow voluntary water conservation measures until further notice. By reducing our water usage, we can help ease the demand on our lakes/source water and reduce or delay the need for mandatory water conservation measures.

To learn more and find resources and weekly water level updates you can visit the Halifax Water website.

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Water Conservation Tips





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THE PEOPLE PROJECT- COMMUNITY MEDIATION PROGRAM

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.

To learn more about the program please visit the United Way [website](#).



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

902.422.1501

LEARN MORE

HALIFAX



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 please visit our [website](#)



PARADE OF LIGHTS

On Saturday, Nov. 15 at 6 p.m., Downtown Halifax will celebrate the 30th annual Nova Scotia Power Holiday Parade of Lights, presented by Eastlink and hosted by the Holiday Parade of Lights Society.

This beloved event draws tens of thousands of spectators eager to experience the sights and sounds of this highly anticipated kickoff to the holiday season. Santa will make a special appearance to bring the celebration to a joyful close, delighting everyone with his festive spirit.



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HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY'S LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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.

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

PROVINCIAL & FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVES

Federal Representatives in District 10:

- **MP Lena Metlege Diab** Halifax West
401-3845 Joseph Howe Drive
Halifax, NS, B3L 4H9
Phone: 902-426-2217
lenametlege.diab@parl.gc.ca

Provincial Representatives in District 10:

- **MLA Lina Hamid** Fairview-Clayton Park
203-3845 Joseph Howe Drive
Halifax, NS B3L 4G2
Phone: 902-404-3220
linahamid@nsmla.ca

- **MLA Adegoke Fadare** Clayton Park
West 120-287 Lacewood Drive
Halifax, NS B3M 3Y7
Phone: 902-457-0364
adegoke@adegokefadare.ca

COUNCILLOR KATHRYN MORSE

Councillor Morse currently serves on the following Boards and Committees along with Halifax Regional Council:

- Appeals Standing Committee
- Audit and Finance Standing Committee
- Transportation Standing Committee
- Halifax and West Community Council
- Canadian Capital Cities Organization
- Halifax Chain of Lakes Trails
- Halifax Harbour Bridges Commission



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