



COUNCILLOR KATHRYN MORSE
DISTRICT 10 NEWSLETTER
HALIFAX - BEDFORD BASIN WEST

DUTCH VILLAGE ROAD COMPLETE STREETS UPDATE

The vast majority of work in support of the [Dutch Village Road Complete Streets project](#) is now complete, including underground infrastructure upgrades, road paving, new sidewalks and bike lanes, enhanced bus stops and crosswalks with shortened crossing distances to improve pedestrian safety.

In the spring landscaping work will take place, including the installation of benches, grass sod and other elements.



VOLUNTEER AWARDS NOMINATIONS OPEN

Nominations for the 2026 Volunteer Awards are open!

Every year, the municipality recognizes the extraordinary contributions of outstanding individuals and groups who volunteer their time and skills to provide services and programs in their communities. The annual Volunteer Awards put a spotlight on the residents who make a meaningful difference in our region.



There are three categories open for applications: Youth, Adult and Group. The award recipients will be announced at the 2026 Volunteer Awards ceremony on Wednesday, April 22, which coincides with National Volunteer Week.

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



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HRM BUDGET 2026/27 KEY DATES

The Halifax Regional Municipality is advising residents of key dates for the 2026/27 municipal budget process.

The municipal budget funds all costs associated with servicing a growing municipality. This includes day-to-day municipal operations, priority initiatives approved by Regional Council and capital investments to purchase, construct, rehabilitate and replace assets.

There are several key dates in the annual municipal budget process. Residents will have the opportunity to speak directly to the Budget Committee during the budget process. During each week of meetings, time will be set aside for the public to provide comments and feedback.

Below are the key dates for the 2026/27 municipal budget process:

Jan. 27: Special evening public participation session (6 p.m., following Regional Council)

Jan. 28 & 30: Capital Plan Recommendation (Reserve Withdrawals, Multi-Year Projects)

Feb. 4-6: Operations Budget Presentations

- Major Projects Office
- Parks & Recreation
- Planning & Development
- Public Works
- Strategic Infrastructure & Transportation Planning
- Halifax Transit
- Property, Fleet & Environment

Feb. 11-13: Public Safety Budget Presentations

- Community Safety
- Halifax Regional Fire & Emergency
- Halifax Regional Police

- RCMP Halifax Regional Detachment

Feb. 18-19: Corporate Services & Other Budget Presentations

- CAO's Office
- Finance & Asset Management
- Human Resources
- Information Technology
- Legal Services
- Auditor General
- Halifax Public Library
- Fiscal Services
- Mayor's Office

March 4 & 6: Budget Adjustment List debate

March 31: 2026/27 Municipal Budget and Business Plan approval

Please note that these dates are subject to change.

Residents will have the opportunity to speak directly to the Budget Committee during the process. Pre-registration is required by 4:30 p.m. on the business day prior to the meeting. Virtual participation will also be available.

For more information on the 2026/27 municipal budget process, visit our [website](#).





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HRFE APPLICATIONS OPENING

Halifax Regional Fire & Emergency (HRFE) will accept applications for career firefighters from **Jan. 6 - 20.**

Becoming a firefighter with HRFE is serious commitment that requires unwavering dedication and extensive preparation at every stage of the recruitment process.

As a candidate, you will face rigorous evaluations designed to ensure you are physically and mentally prepared to tackle the challenges of this demanding profession. This process will test your resilience and determination, and it is essential to approach every aspect with seriousness and focus.

We seek individuals who demonstrate professionalism and integrity in all areas, as these qualities are crucial not only during training, but also in the field. Your commitment to these standards will set you apart as a candidate ready to serve and protect our community.

For full details please visit our [website](#).



**Tough job.
Strong team.**

JOIN HRP 2027 CADET CLASS

Join the Halifax Regional Municipality as a Cadet with the Training division of Halifax Regional Police. There are full-time student positions available.

The Halifax Police Program teaches the knowledge, skills and discipline needed to serve and protect communities with integrity. Cadets will be trained in law, ethics, communication, defensive tactics and crisis management. Training also emphasizes teamwork, resilience and community engagement. All the tools to prepare you as an Officer who upholds justice, maintains public safety and builds trust with the people you serve.

[Apply](#) by 11:59 p.m. on **Friday, Jan. 9, 2025.**

NEW REC PROGRAM PROPOSAL PROCESS

Looking for ways to share your talents and skills with your community? Recreation is now accepting applications for new program ideas from residents interested in leading their proposed classes.

Proposals are accepted year-round and reviewed regularly.

Learn more and apply by visiting our [website](#).





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SNOW CLEARING

Snow clearing in our municipality is a big job and if stretched into a straight line, it would reach from Halifax to Winnipeg. Streets and sidewalks are prioritized based on commuter usage and access to key infrastructure.

Learn more by visiting our [website](https://www.halifax.ca/snow).



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](https://www.halifax.ca/hfxalert).

hfxALERT
Notifications
when you
need to know.

HALIFAX

PARKING BAN

The overnight winter parking ban is in effect every year from Dec. 15 until Mar. 31; however, it is only enforced during declared weather events and clearing operations. When the ban is enforced, it restricts any on-street parking between 1 a.m. and 6 a.m. Vehicles in violation of the ban will be ticketed and/or towed.

Remember to stay informed about the status of the parking ban and please think before you park.



I hosted a community skate with Councillor Janet Steele on December 27. Thank you to everyone who came out to skate with us.



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CHRISTMAS TREE DISPOSAL

After the holidays, an option for disposing of natural Christmas trees is to place them curbside. They will be picked up on your regular green cart collection day. Remove all plastic, tinsel, ornaments, metal rings, nails, stands and plastic tree bags.

Did you know? Some no profit groups actively seek out natural Christmas trees for repurposing, such as for animal feed. Consider this disposal option before putting your tree to the curb.

For more on how to manage your waste download the Halifax Recycles app or click [here](#).



SHARED MICROMOBILITY PILOT PROGRAM PAUSE

The shared micromobility pilot program paused for the winter season on Monday, Dec. 15.

Bird Canada e-scooters and e-bikes will be removed from service until spring 2026.

Keep an eye out for updates on their return in spring 2026. For more details and information on the program please visit our [website](#).

WINDSOR STREET EXCHANGE LANE REALIGNMENT

Significant transit detours and traffic changes are now in effect as part of preparation work for the Windsor Street Exchange Redevelopment Project.

Transit Impacts

On Dec. 8, routes 135, 136, 137 and 138 went on a long-term detour (PM trips only) due to preparation work for the Windsor Street Exchange Redevelopment Project. This detour will be in place for approximately two years. Express Routes 135 and 138 will detour using Gottingen St., Novalea Dr., Duffus St., and Lady Hammond Rd. Service to 2 bus stops will be impacted.

Express Routes 136 and 137 will detour using Barrington St, Devonshire Ave, Duffus St, and Lady Hammond Rd. Service to 4 bus stops will be impacted.

Route 39 to Lacewood Terminal will detour using the Barrington St. Ramp, Barrington St., Duffus St., and Lady Hammond Rd. No bus stop service will be impacted.

Traffic Impacts

Highway 111 is being realigned between the Windsor Street Exchange and Massachusetts Avenue, and the continuous lane from the outbound Massachusetts Avenue ramp is being removed. Drivers from this ramp will now need to merge with traffic from the MacKay Bridge and Barrington Street. Expect delays in this area and consider alternate routes where possible.

To learn more about the project please visit our [website](#).



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AFRICAN HERITAGE MONTH OPENING NIGHT CELEBRATION

In 1984, Halifax Public Libraries and the Black History Month Association launched their inaugural Black History Month program in Halifax. More than 40 years later, we are looking back on the many moments, leaders, achievements, and struggles that have shaped where we are today.

The Halifax Central Library will be hosting the annual kick-off event on Wednesday, Jan. 28 from 7 p.m. until 9 p.m. The evening will feature performances, refreshments, and lots of memories (old and new!).

This year's African Heritage Month provincial theme is **"Strength in Unity: Moving Forward with Purpose, Prosperity, Power, and Progress."** The theme speaks to the power that comes when African Nova Scotians and people of African descent stand together with a shared sense of direction. It recognizes unity as an active force for change that strengthens communities, advances justice, and creates new opportunities.

To find out more information about the kickoff event and other African Heritage Month events being hosted by the Halifax Public Libraries can be found on their events page of their [website](#).

RECREATION ACCESS PROGRAM

Effective January 2026, multi-district facilities (MDFs) will be included in the Recreation Access Program.

Previously, these facilities operated their own affordable access programs. MDFs now included in the program:

- Canada Games Centre
- Cole Harbour Place
- St. Margarets Centre
- Zatzman Sportsplex

Are you a member of one of these facilities looking for affordable access? Learn more and apply in 2026 by visiting our [website](#).



Rang in 2026 with my Council Colleagues at the annual New Year's Day Levee at City Hall.





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HOUSING ACCELERATOR FUND PROGRESS

The municipality is making strong progress under the Housing Accelerator Fund (HAF), a federal program that supports faster housing development across Canada.

Since signing its agreement in October 2023, Halifax Regional Municipality has:

- Achieved 77.5 per cent of its three-year housing permits target and is expected to surpass the goal before October 2026.
- Completed 10 of 11 initiatives outlined in its HAF Action Plan.
- Received \$39 million in funding so far, with another \$19.8 million expected by late 2025.

The federal program, administered by the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, provides funding to municipalities that remove barriers and accelerate housing supply. The municipality's Action Plan sets a target of 15,467 new housing units over three years, an increase of more than 20 per cent compared to historical growth. This includes about 2,600 net new units over the life of the project.

The program runs until 2026 and rewards municipalities for meeting critical milestones. HRM's success means more housing options for residents and continued federal investment in the region.

For more information, read the [information report](#).

SUBURBAN PLAN FEEDBACK

The Halifax Regional Municipality is developing a Suburban Plan, a new planning document that will guide growth and change in our suburban areas.

Residents will have opportunities to share their ideas and help influence the Suburban Plan throughout the planning process at open houses and through an online survey.

The open house for Clayton Park and Fairview will be held on Jan. 28, from 2 to 4 p.m. and 5:30 to 8 p.m. at the Canada Games Centre

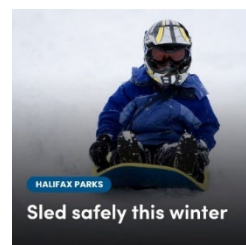
The goal of the suburban planning process is to update land use policies under one plan while respecting each community's unique history, characteristics and aspirations.

The survey will remain available until June 15, 2026. Learn more and fill out the survey by visiting the Engage Halifax [website](#).

SLED SAFETY

Sled safely this winter. Remember – municipal parks aren't set up, inspected or maintained for sledding, and obstacles can be hiding beneath the snow. Sledding in parks is at your own risk.

No matter where you sled, be sure to wear a helmet and watch for hazards like trees, rocks, fences, benches, and play equipment.





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HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY'S LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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.”

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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
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linahamid@nsmla.ca

- **MLA Adegoke Fadare** Clayton Park
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Halifax, NS B3M 3Y7
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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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