

MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT IN CANADA



HALIFAX



Overview of Topics

TOPIC 1

Levels of Government in Canada and Division of Powers

TOPIC 2

What is the Halifax Regional Municipality?

TOPIC 3

How to get involved?

Order of Government

THE MONARCH (QUEEN OR KING OF ENGLAND)



FEDERAL GOVERNMENT



PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT



MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT



FEDERAL GOVERNMENT



Government of Canada

- Central Government for all 10 provinces and 3 territories.
- Capital in Ottawa, Ontario.
- Derives powers from the Constitution.
- Elected by Party System:
 - Head of party with most seats is **Prime Minister**.



PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT



Government of Nova Scotia

- 10 separate Provincial Governments in Canada.
- Each shares/divides responsibility to govern with the Federal Government.
- Derives powers from the Constitution.
- Political Party System much like at the Federal Level;
- Head of party with most seats becomes Premier of the Province.



MUNICIPAL/ REGIONAL GOVERNMENT

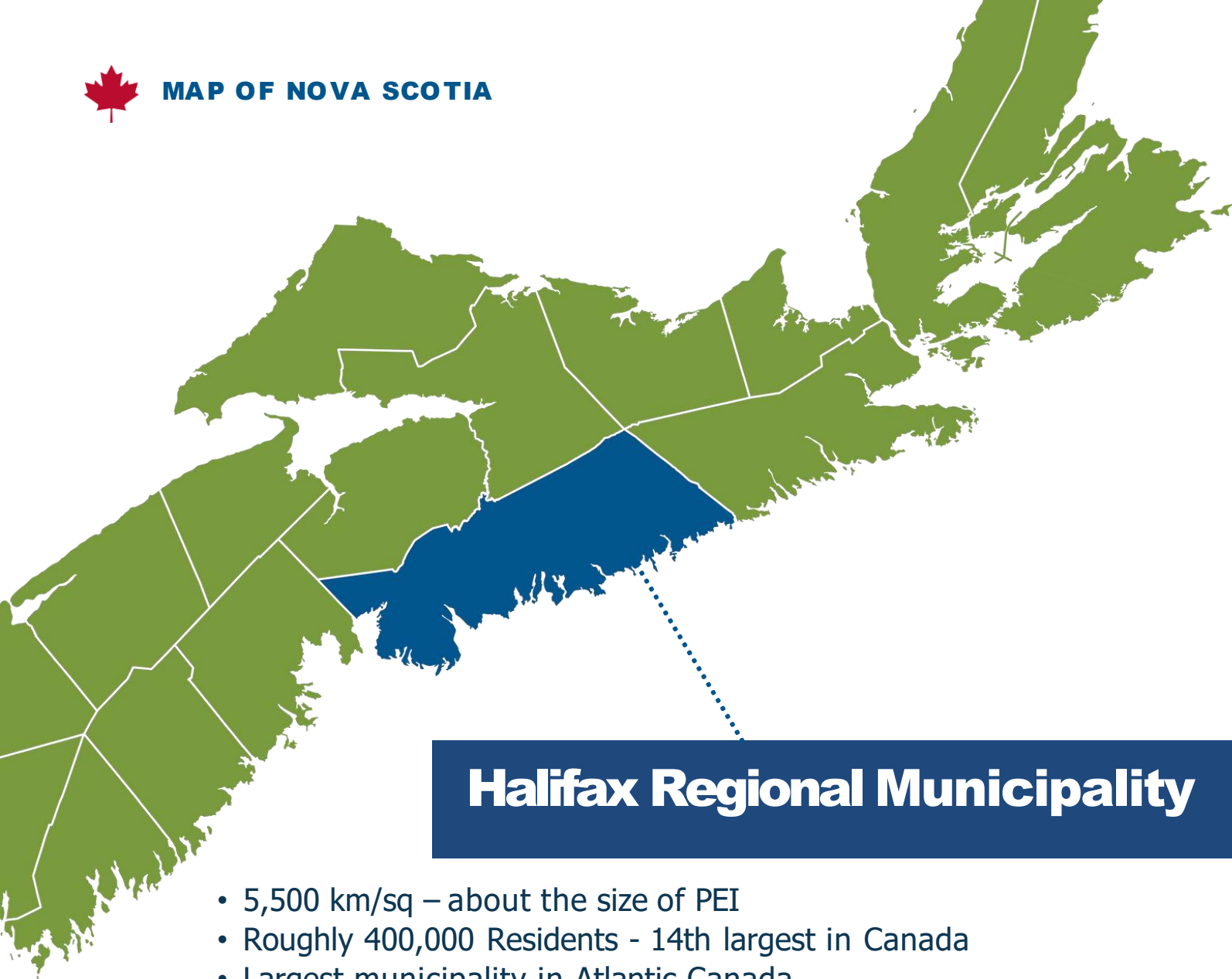


Halifax Regional Municipality

- Many municipalities/local governments across Canada.
- Rather than the Constitution, municipalities are created and regulated by the Province, but they are granted their own powers.
- Provides local services that we depend on everyday.



MAP OF NOVA SCOTIA



Halifax Regional Municipality

- 5,500 km/sq – about the size of PEI
- Roughly 400,000 Residents - 14th largest in Canada
- Largest municipality in Atlantic Canada

How is HRM Governed?

- Halifax Regional Council is the decision making body for the Municipality.
- Made up of the Mayor and 16 Councillors (one from each district).
- No political party system.
- Meetings take place in Halifax City Hall/Virtually.

HALIFAX



Who does what?

FEDERAL	PROVINCIAL	MUNICIPAL
<p>National Defence Fisheries Shipping & Waterways Internet & Telecommunications Postal Services Foreign Affairs Immigration Banking International Trade Agriculture</p>	<p>Driver Licensing Marriage Education Healthcare Human & Civil Rights Property Rights</p>	<p>Snow Removal Fire Services Community & Recreation Centres Public Libraries Land Use Planning Sewers & Wastewater Public Transit Water Treatment Garbage & Recycling</p>
SHARED		
<p>Parks Police Environment Transportation Correctional Facilities</p>		

Services HRM Provides

MUNICIPAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Snow Removal
- Fire Services
- Community & Recreation Centers
- Public Libraries
- Land Use Planning
- Sewers & Waste Water
- Public Transit
- Water Treatment
- Garbage and Recycling
- Traffic Signals
- Parks



SHARED WITH OTHER LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT

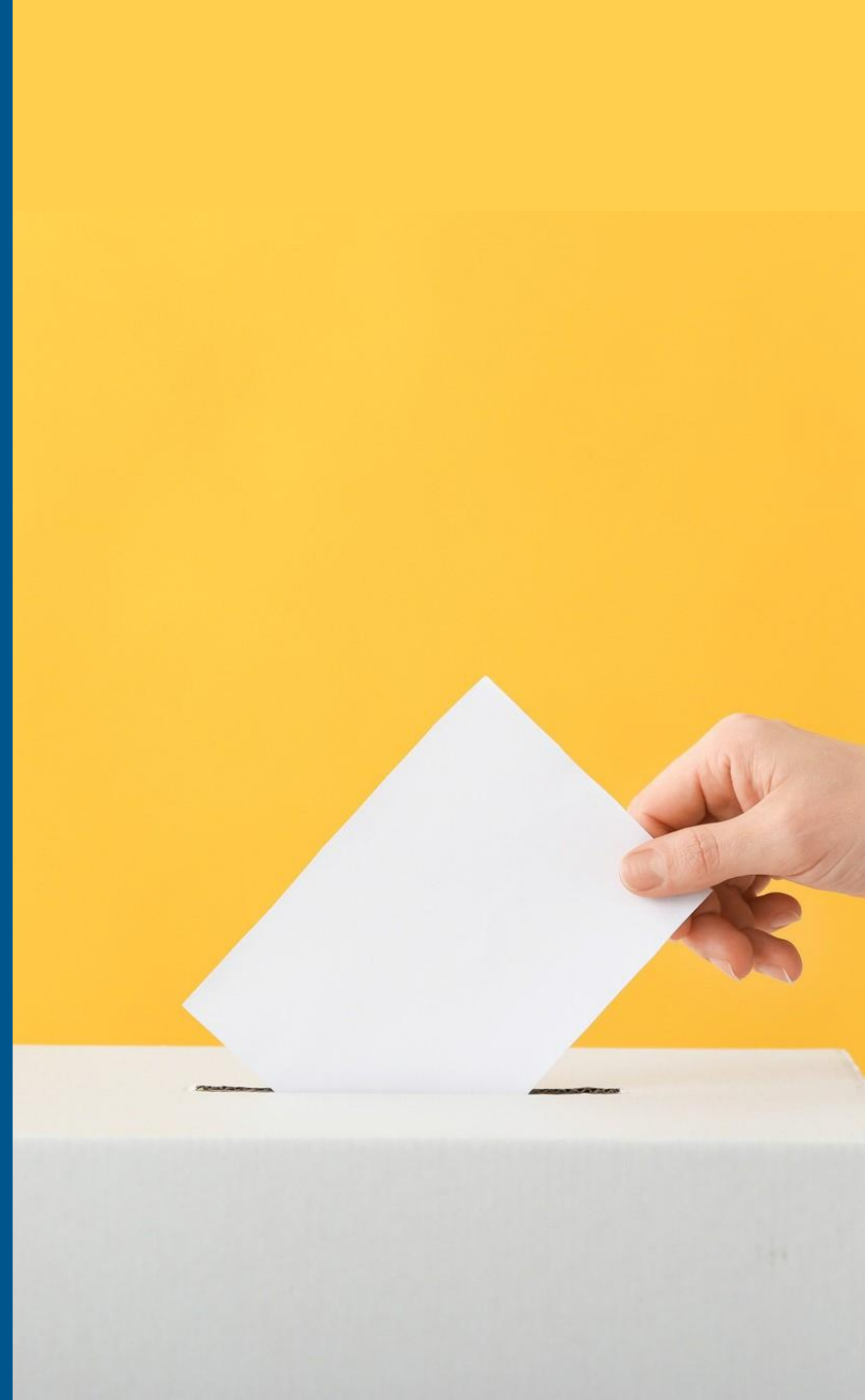
- Parks
- Police
- Environment
- Transportation
- Correctional Facilities
- Schools (HRCE)



Municipal Elections

- Regular elections for the Mayor and members of Regional Council every 4 years (Last Election held in October 2020).
- Special elections are held as needed to fill vacancies.
- Who is able to vote?
 - You are at least 18 years old;
 - A Canadian citizen;
 - Have resided in Nova Scotia for six months;

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Mayor

- The Mayor is elected “at large,” or by all voters within HRM.
- Represents and leads the Municipality.
- 1st among elected equals.



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Councillors

- 16 Councillors – 1 for each district of the HRM.
- Elected only by residents in their DISTRICT.
- Work on behalf of their districts & people who live there.

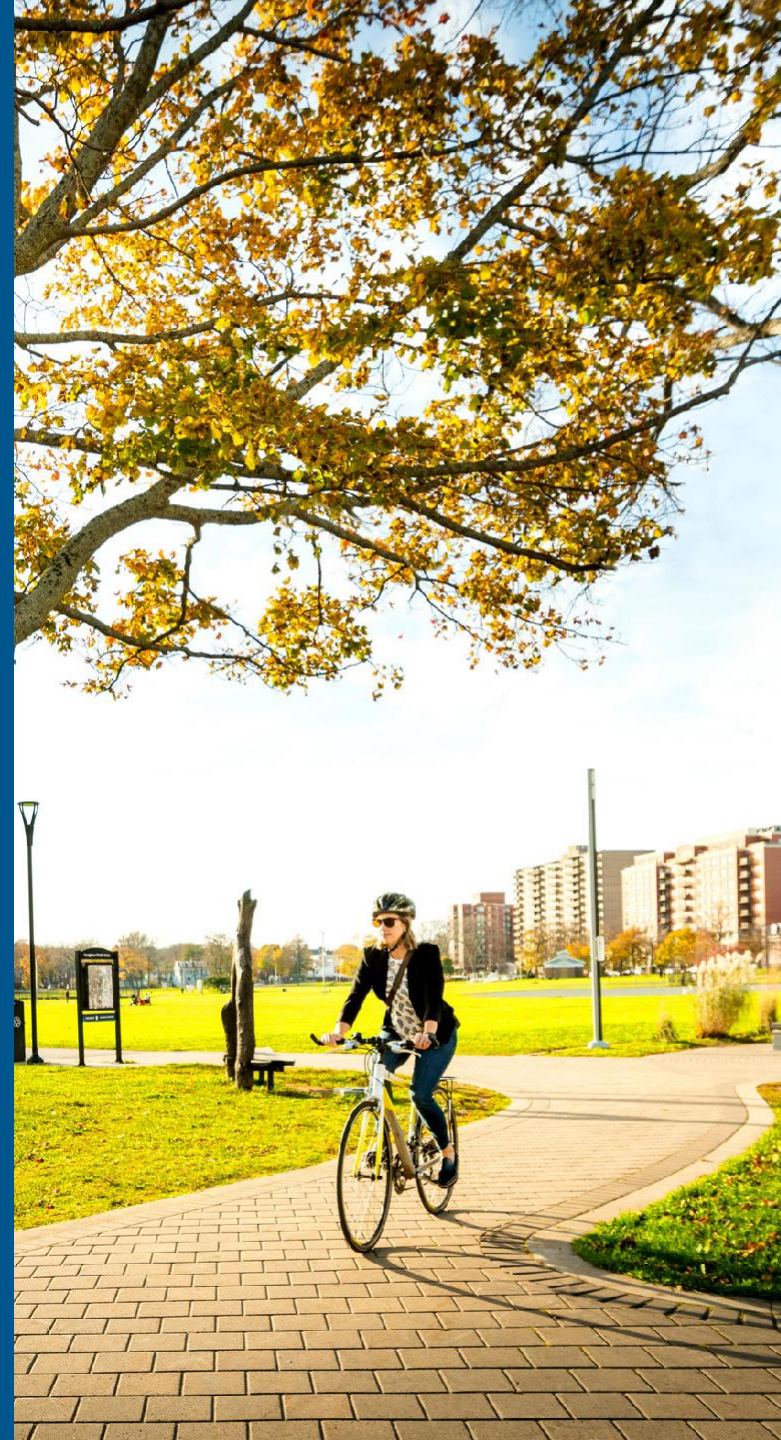


**Council Chamber
Halifax, Nova Scotia**

Civic Administration

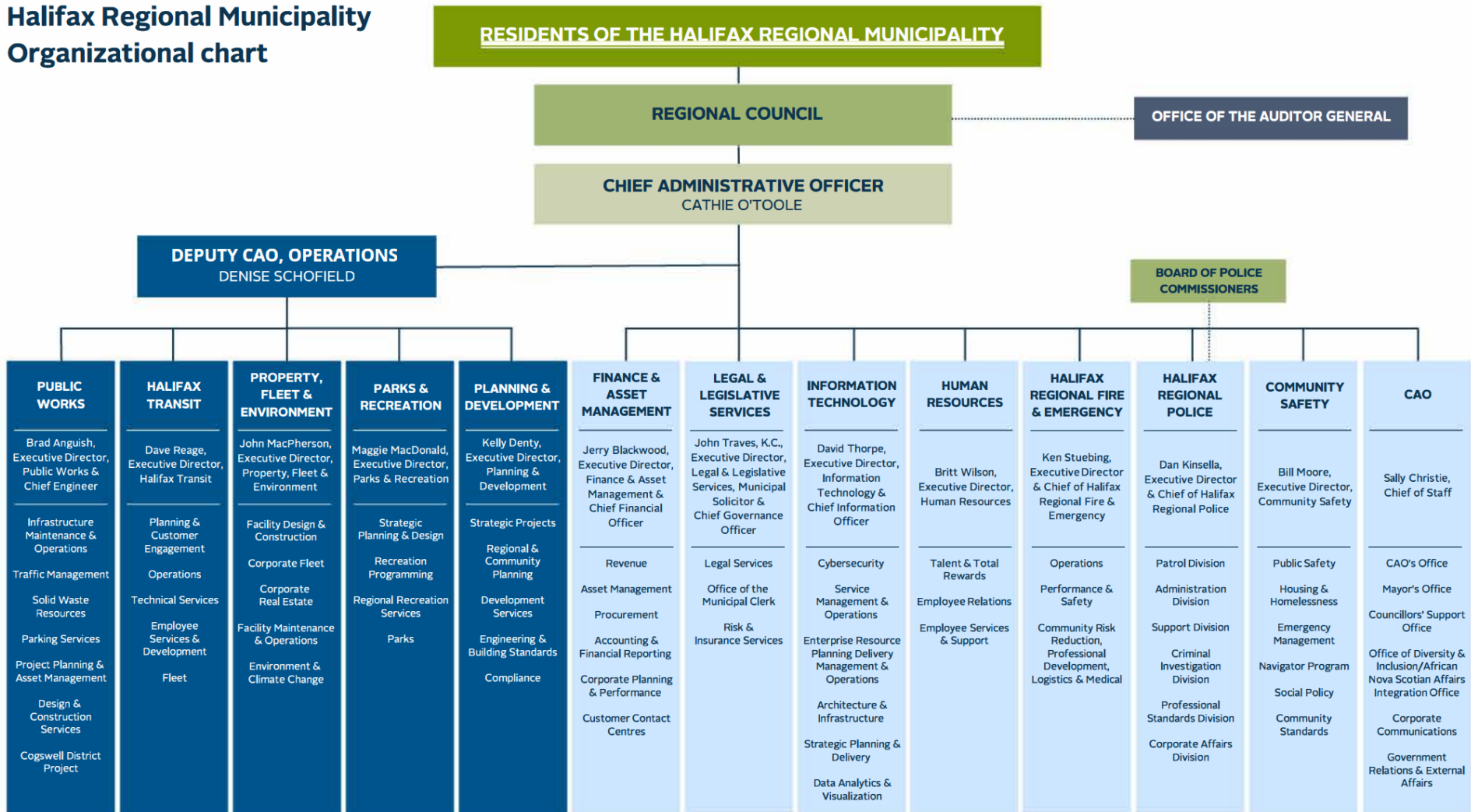
- The civic administration (Public Service/Staff) is focused on implementing the decisions and policies of Regional Council.
- The Chief Administrative Officer (“CAO”) is the head of HRM’s professional public service and communicates Council’s direction to staff.
- HRM employs over 4000 staff.
- The organization is divided into departments known as “Business Units” which carry out specific functions of the municipality.

HALIFAX



ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

Halifax Regional Municipality Organizational chart



HRM BUDGET: HOW DO WE FUND OUR SERVICES?

Budget Overview

- Operating Budget – \$980 Million
- Approximately 81% per cent of the HRM revenues come from residential, and commercial property taxes

2023/24 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS



15
additional rural fire fighters



\$0.5 million
affordable access to recreation



\$0.3 million
increased funding for Halifax Public Libraries' collections



\$1.1 million
to address homelessness



\$0.4 million
new Community Safety business unit

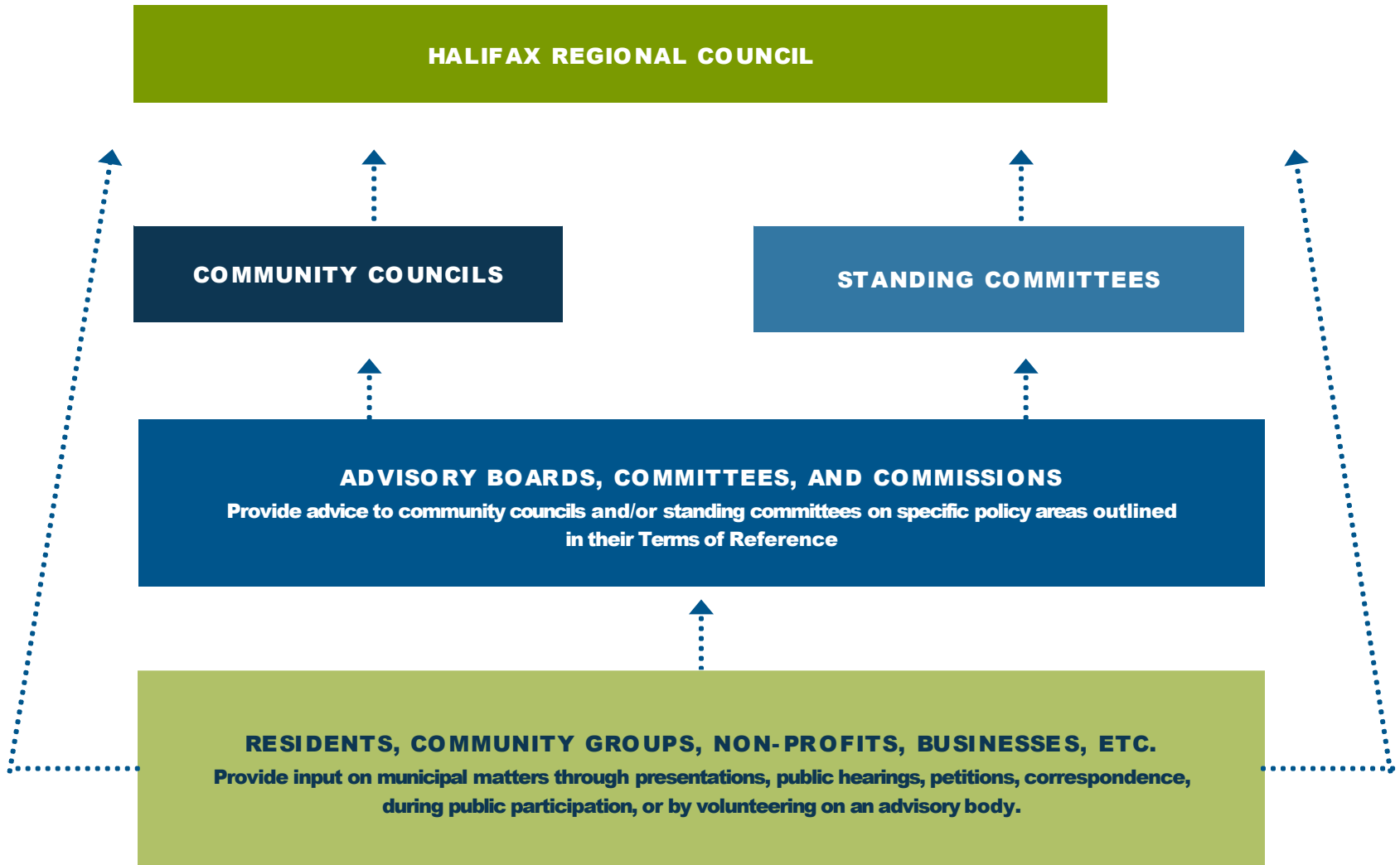


\$0.1 million
increased funding for arts programs

Quick Facts:

- Provincial Government 2023–24 projected revenue \$14.2 billion
- Dalhousie University 2023–24 Revenue and Expenditures \$550M

Boards & Committees



Questions?

HALIFAX

**Thank
You!**

**For more information on how
to get involved visit:**

halifax.ca