



**DEPUTY MAYOR CATHY DEAGLE GAMMON**  
**DISTRICT 1 ONLINE NEWS**  
**WAVERLEY - FALL RIVER - MUSQUODOBOIT VALLEY**

**WELCOME FEBRUARY!**

February is African Heritage month and is also known as the month of “love” as many celebrate [Valentine’s Day](#). We also have Heritage Day on February 19<sup>th</sup> this year, a day “[to celebrate the exceptional people, places and events that helped form Nova Scotia’s vibrant heritage](#)”. This year’s honoree is [William Hall](#).

Heritage is an important theme for the month of February. Celebrating our heritage helps to better understand our differences and how our unique and shared histories make us the vibrant communities we are today. Take time this month to learn more about your own heritage or that of your community.

Keep reading for more information on HRM’s Community Grants program, Culture and Heritage Priorities plan, Rural Recreation Strategy, Property Valuation Cooperation and property assessments, and much more!

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

**WELCOME FEBRUARY! ..... 1**  
**FEBRUARY MEETINGS..... 2**  
**DID YOU KNOW .... 3**  
**SNOW REMOVAL STANDARDS ..... 3**  
**AFRICAN HERITAGE MONTH..... 3**  
**AFRICAN NOVA SCOTIAN ROAD TO ECONOMIC PROSPERITY ..... 4**  
**POET LAUREATE ..... 4**  
**YOUR VOICE MATTERS ..... 5**  
**2024/25 BUDGET UPDATE..... 6**  
**PROPERTY ASSESSMENTS ..... 6**  
**RCMP STATS..... 8**  
**WAVERLEY ROAD RESIDENT SURVEY:8**  
**RURAL RECREATION STRATEGY ..... 9**  
**DISTRICT BOUNDARY REVIEW..... 9**  
**ICE THICKNESS TESTING ..... 10**  
**CULTURE/HERITAGE PRIORITIES ... 10**  
**DRINKING WATER - EXTREME RAIN 11**  
**HALIFACT PROGRESS REPORT..... 11**  
**SLEDGE RACING PROGRAM..... 12**  
**COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM .... 12**  
**ACTIVATE PROGRAM ..... 13**  
**EASTLINK TELE-COMMUNICATION .. 13**  
**HOUSING ACCELERATOR FUND ..... 13**  
**ROAD SAFETY FOCUS - FEBRUARY.. 14**  
**IN THE COMMUNITY ..... 16**  
**CHEEMA AQUATIC CLUB..... 18**  
**COMMUNITY CENTRES/HALLS ..... 19**  
**PROVINCIAL & FEDERAL REPS ..... 19**  
**COUNCILLOR DEAGLE GAMMON ..... 20**  
**E-NEWSLETTER/SUBSCRIBE..... 20**  
**LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT ..... 20**



## COUNCILLOR CATHY DEAGLE GAMMON

WAVERLEY - FALL RIVER - MUSQUODOBOIT VALLEY

### FEBRUARY MEETINGS

#### Budget Committee

Friday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> at 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday, February 7<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m.

Friday, February 9<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday, February 28<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m.

#### Regional Council

Tuesday, February 6<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. (Special)

#### North West Community Council

Tuesday, February 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. (special joint meeting)

Monday, February 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

Please confirm meeting dates and times on the [municipal website](#) as they are subject to change.

#### Standing Committees

February 8<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.

Appeals Standing Committee

February 8<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m.

Executive Standing Committee (In Camera)

February 8<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m.

Grants Committee

February 9<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 a.m.

Mayor's Economic Forum – Partnership for a Growing Halifax

February 21<sup>st</sup> at 10:00 a.m.

Audit & Finance Standing Committee

February 21<sup>st</sup> at 1:00 p.m.

Grants Committee

February 26<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.

Executive Standing Committee

February 26<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m.

Accessibility Advisory Committee

North West Planning Advisory Committee – meetings are on hold for 3 years [as per provincial amendments to HRM Charter effective April 2022](#).

#### External Meetings:

February TBD

Aerotech Community Liaison Community Committee

Thursday, February 15<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.  
Equity and Community Wellbeing Committee

February 17<sup>th</sup>

Elderbanks Winter Festival

February 17<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m.

Mother Language Day

February 17<sup>th</sup> at 5:30

Chinese New Year Banquet

February TBD

Halifax International Airport Authority

February TBD

Halifax Partnership

February TBD

Halifax Regional Water Commission

February TBD

Goffs Quarry Community Liaison

### NWCC UPDATE

At the January 15<sup>th</sup> meeting of the North West Community Council, NWCC considered the following:

[Councillor Lovelace - Bedford West Water Quality Status Update – Summer 2023-Presentation](#)

Motion was passed to forward the report to Regional Council as an Information Item.



## COUNCILLOR CATHY DEAGLE GAMMON

WAVERLEY - FALL RIVER - MUSQUODOBOIT VALLEY

### [Case 2023-01049: Suburban Planning Area Land Use By-law amendments to Interim Bonus Zoning Requirements for Applicable Plan Amendment Applications](#)

First reading was given and a joint public hearing with Halifax West Community Council, Harbour East Marine Drive Community Council and North West Community Council, scheduled for Tuesday, February 20<sup>th</sup>.

To view the full meeting agenda [click here](#).

### DID YOU KNOW ...

February is [African Heritage Month](#).  
February 2<sup>nd</sup> is [World Wetlands Day](#)  
February 2<sup>nd</sup> is [Ground Hog Day](#)  
February 4<sup>th</sup> is [World Cancer Day](#)  
February 10<sup>th</sup> is [Chinese New Year](#)  
February 11<sup>th</sup> is [International Day of Women and Girls in Science](#)  
February 14<sup>th</sup> is [Valentine's Day](#)  
February 15<sup>th</sup> is [National Flag Day of Canada](#)  
February 19<sup>th</sup> is [Nova Scotia Heritage Day](#)  
February 21<sup>st</sup> is [International Mother Language Day](#)  
February 24<sup>th</sup> is [Pink Shirt Day](#)  
February 29<sup>th</sup> is [Leap Day](#)



### SNOW REMOVAL STANDARDS



#### Roads and On-street Bikeways

Priority Level	Type of Road	Service Standard for clearing (starts after end of event)	Minimum Accumulation	What surface should look like
1	Main arterial roads, emergency routes, Halifax Transit routes and roads with steep grades	12 hours	2 cm of snowfall	Bare
2	Residential streets, gravel roads and private lanes	24 hours	10 cm of snowfall	Snow covered but passable



#### Sidewalks and Protected Bike Lanes

Priority Level	Priority Level Location/type of sidewalk or bike lane	Service Standard for clearing (starts after end of event)	Minimum Accumulation	What surface should look like
1	Downtown Halifax and Dartmouth	12 hours	5 cm of snowfall	Bare
1	Main arterials and school drop-off zones	12 hours	15 cm of snowfall	Bare
2	Halifax Transit routes	18 hours	15 cm of snowfall	Mostly bare with salt for traction
3	Residential streets and walkways	36 hours	15 cm of snowfall	Mostly bare with salt for traction

**When to contact 311**  
Once the service timelines have expired, you can report any snow or ice removal issues on municipal streets, sidewalks or bike lanes by emailing [ContactUs@311.halifax.ca](mailto:ContactUs@311.halifax.ca) or by calling 311.

Please note, clearing timelines may be exceeded during exceptional weather conditions.

**HALIFAX**

### AFRICAN HERITAGE MONTH



This year's [African Heritage Month](#) provincial theme, *Our Smiles, Our Joy, Our Resilience as*

*African Nova Scotians*, outlines the spirit of perseverance that people of African descent have





## COUNCILLOR CATHY DEAGLE GAMMON

WAVERLEY - FALL RIVER - MUSQUODOBOIT VALLEY

demonstrated over the centuries. It can be said that smiles can tell a story, they can share joy and resilience. This African Heritage Month, celebrate the heritage, culture and the incredible spirit to overcome. The theme also aligns with the final year of the United Nations' International Decade for People of African Descent (DPAD) 2015-2024.

Nova Scotia has 52 historic African Nova Scotian communities with a long, deep and complex history dating back over 200 years. African Heritage Month provides us with another opportunity to celebrate our culture, legacy, achievements and contributions past and present.

For more information about African History Month, please contact the [Black Cultural Centre for Nova Scotia](#):

Phone: (902) 434-6223

Email: [contact@bccns.com](mailto:contact@bccns.com)

## AFRICAN NOVA SCOTIAN ROAD TO ECONOMIC PROSPERITY

[An information report](#) has been provided to Regional Council outlining key activities of the Road to Economic Prosperity for African Nova Scotian Communities from September 2022 to September 2023.

The [report](#) outlines activities around the Strategic Priorities, including:

- Build unity and capacity among African Nova Scotians

Through the guidance of the Advisory Committee, the outcome of this priority requires effective and culturally specific information

sharing, collaboration with partners and establishment of a framework for supporting community capacity building efforts.

- Establish land ownership, develop infrastructure, and attract investment

This priority addresses historic and current issues related to land ownership and environmental racism, strengthens the revitalization of African Nova Scotian communities through investment and development, and supports the exploration of international economic and cultural opportunities.

- Increase participation in education, employment and entrepreneurship

The Advisory Committee continues to collaborate with its partners and stakeholders around opportunities to advance this action.

## POET LAUREATE



Nominations for the next municipal Poet Laureate are now being accepted. The Poet Laureate is a resident poet, storyteller or spoken word artist who has achieved excellence amongst their peers and whose body of work demonstrates connection with and relevance to the citizens of the municipality. The new Poet



## COUNCILLOR CATHY DEAGLE GAMMON

WAVERLEY - FALL RIVER - MUSQUODOBOIT VALLEY

Laureate will serve a term beginning April 2024 and ending on March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2027 and will receive an honorarium of \$5,000 per year of their mandate.

Nominations will be accepted until 4:00 p.m. on Friday, February 16<sup>th</sup>. For more information see:

- [Facebook - Halifax Regional Municipality](#)
- [Twitter - @hfxgov](#)
- [Instagram - @hfxmoments](#)

## YOUR VOICE MATTERS

### HAVE YOUR SAY

Your voice matters.  
Participate in the  
2024-2025 Budget.

HALIFAX

The Halifax Regional Municipality is advising residents of the following key dates as part of the 2024/25 Municipal Budget process. On Wednesday, January 31<sup>st</sup>,

the municipal business units commenced their presentations on proposed budgets and business plans for the 2024/25 fiscal year. A copy of each presentation will be available on [halifax.ca/city-hall](https://halifax.ca/city-hall) before the meeting.

Below are the scheduled presentation dates for each business unit:

Wednesday, January 31<sup>st</sup> (Contingency: Friday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> )

Corporate Services (CAO's Office, Finance & Asset Management, Human Resources, Information Technology, Legal & Legislative Services)

Auditor General

Property, Fleet & Environment

Friday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> (Contingency: Wednesday, February 7<sup>th</sup> )

February 2024

Halifax Public Libraries

Wednesday, February 7<sup>th</sup> (Contingency: Friday, February 9<sup>th</sup> )

Halifax Regional Police; RCMP

Friday, February 9<sup>th</sup> (Contingency: Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup> )

Public Works

Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup> (Contingency: Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup> )

Planning & Development

Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup> (Contingency: Wednesday, February 28<sup>th</sup> )

Parks & Recreation

Wednesday, February 28<sup>th</sup> (Contingency: Friday, March 1)

Halifax Transit

Friday, March 1<sup>st</sup> (Contingency: Wednesday, March 6)  
Halifax Regional Fire & Emergency

Wednesday, March 6<sup>th</sup> (Contingency: Friday, March (TBD)  
Community Safety; Fiscal

During each meeting, time will be set aside for the public to provide insight and comments. For residents to be added to the speakers list, pre-registration will be available until 4:30 p.m. the business day prior to the meeting. More information will be available on [halifax.ca/city-hall](https://halifax.ca/city-hall) before the meeting.

Residents will also be able to virtually participate any in-person meetings. Residents who wish to speak through the virtual option must still pre-register.



## COUNCILLOR CATHY DEAGLE GAMMON

WAVERLEY - FALL RIVER - MUSQUODOBOIT VALLEY

On Tuesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> (Contingency: Wednesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>), Budget Committee will review the Budget Adjustment List (BAL). The BAL includes all additional items that business units have presented beyond their proposed budgets, including add-ons (“overs”) and subtractions (“unders”).

A full review of the 2024/25 Municipal Budget and the 2024/25 Capital Budget will occur on Tuesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> (Contingency: Tuesday, April 30<sup>th</sup>).

For more information on the budget process, visit [halifax.ca/budget](https://halifax.ca/budget).

### 2024/25 BUDGET UPDATE

On January 24<sup>th</sup>, municipal staff returned to the Budget Committee with changes to the proposed 2024/25 budget that will lower the residential tax burden from 9.7 per cent to 8.9 per cent.

The proposed increase includes a residential municipal tax rate increase of 2.0 per cent. This amounts to approximately \$205 annual tax increase for residents.

The municipality is facing ongoing inflationary pressures and population growth, all causing significant cost increases in the 2024/25 Municipal Budget. This tax bill increase would allow all municipal services, projects and initiatives to continue as planned and budgeted for in past years.

Any reduction below 8.9 per cent may mean a reduction or loss in municipal services, or the delay of municipal projects and initiatives.

Reminder: 8.9 per cent is a starting point for further discussion during the budget process.

### PROPERTY ASSESSMENTS

#### Property Valuation Services Corporation

##### What influences market value?



The Property Valuation Services Corporation (PVSC) collects and analyzes sales and financial data to determine property values for each property in Nova Scotia. The [Property Assessment Notice](#) you receive each January shows the estimated value of your property one year ago, on January 1<sup>st</sup>, based on market sales and financial data. It also reflects the characteristics and physical state of your



## COUNCILLOR CATHY DEAGLE GAMMON

WAVERLEY - FALL RIVER - MUSQUODOBOIT VALLEY

property on December 1<sup>st</sup>, one month before your Property Assessment Notice is mailed.

2024 property assessments are based on sales and financial data and reflect a market value as of January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023, and the physical state of properties as of December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023, including new construction, renovations, demolitions, and impacts from natural disasters.

This year's rate for the provincial government's [Capped Assessment Program](#) (CAP) is 3.2 per cent. The CAP rate reflects the annual Consumer Price Index (CPI) for Nova Scotia as confirmed by the Province. The CAP limits the annual increase in taxable assessment for eligible residential properties to no more than the CPI rate for the year. About 68 per cent of residential assessments, 415,576 property accounts, qualify for CAP for 2024.

PVSC mailed over 645,000 Property Assessment Notices to Nova Scotia property owners on January 9, 2024.

Property owners can view detailed information on their assessment by accessing their "[My Property Report](#)" on the Property Valuation Services Corporation website. Use your Assessment Account Number and PIN access number to see your information. To obtain a PIN number, phone 1.800.380.7775. Assessors are available to discuss assessments and answer questions by phone (1-800-380- 7775) or email ([inquiry@pvsc.ca](mailto:inquiry@pvsc.ca)) . For more information, [click here](#).

What do I do with my assessment notice?

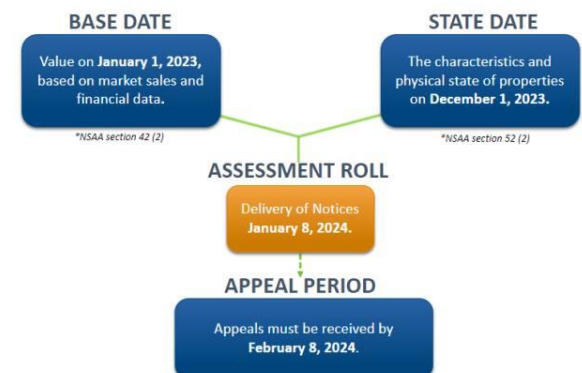
It is not necessary to do anything with it if you agree with the assessed value. If, however, you believe the assessed value is not a reasonable estimate then you can [contact the PVSC](#) at 1.800.380.7775 or follow the instructions on the back of your Notice of Assessment if you wish to appeal. **Assessment Appeals must be received by PVSC before midnight on February 8<sup>th</sup>.** Signed appeal forms can be submitted by email, mail, or fax. For more information about the process and timeline, [click here](#).

### 2024 IMPORTANT DATES

The Nova Scotia Assessment Act (NSAA) requires that properties are assessed at market value.

The 2024 Assessment Roll reflects market value as of January 1, 2023, based on sales and financial data.

The assessments also consider the physical state of properties as of December 1, 2023, including new construction, renovations, demolitions, and impacts from natural disasters.



**Dec 11, 2023:** The 2024 Assessment Roll was sent to Nova Scotia's 49 municipalities.

**Jan 8, 2024:** PVSC mailed 647,470 property assessment notices to Nova Scotia property owners.

**Feb 8, 2024:** Assessment appeals must be received by midnight on February 8, 2024. Signed appeal forms can be submitted by email, mail, or fax. For email, the appeal form must be provided as an attachment (scanned copy or photo).





## COUNCILLOR CATHY DEAGLE GAMMON

WAVERLEY - FALL RIVER - MUSQUODOBOIT VALLEY

### RCMP STATS



### WAVERLEY ROAD RESIDENT SURVEY UPDATE:



As mentioned in my January Enewsletter, the 108 Waverley Road Survey respondents were very generous

with their participation. Thank you so much!

According to the results, the main problems are vehicle speed, road design, traffic enforcement, visibility and poor road conditions in that order.

The solutions suggested were fairly consistent and I will share them with the RCMP, HRP, HRM Public Works and Traffic Services, Halifax Water, NS Power and Urban Forestry.

Here is a modest list of themes that I will ask each department to consider and respond to at a meeting most likely to be held in early spring

2024 due to the current budget sessions underway.

#### Enforcement:

- More traffic Enforcement
- A monitored text number that people can text the license plate of speeders.
- Lower speed limit to 30 in most dangerous areas
- Speed Radar/Speed Cameras /Photo Radar
- Traffic lights at Silversides

#### Infrastructure:

- Double yellow line - NO PASSING
- Sidewalks
- Crosswalk at Silversides to the beach
- Widen the road
- Improve road shoulders
- Pave trails /complete Waverley to Dartmouth trail for cyclists and hikers
- Traffic Calming
- Three way stops
- Install signs reminding drivers to share the road
- Better stormwater management
- Bring back transit bus

#### Cyclist:

- Designate it as non-cyclist!
- Limit cyclist to work day
- Cyclist education/ no group rides

#### Environment:

- Roadside vegetation management
- Regular shoulder maintenance
- Improved NS Power tree trimming







## COUNCILLOR CATHY DEAGLE GAMMON

WAVERLEY - FALL RIVER - MUSQUODOBOIT VALLEY

organizations in the region that advance the profile of the local arts sector with the aim to foster broad public access to public art. There are two funding streams: operating assistance and project assistance. The municipality now provides up to three-year funding agreements towards the operating funds of eligible groups and annual funding agreements supporting distinct artistic projects.

For more information or to discuss eligibility, groups are invited to contact Lindsay Cory, Community Developer (Public Arts), at [lindsay.cory@halifax.ca](mailto:lindsay.cory@halifax.ca). To learn more and apply, visit [our website](#).

### ICE THICKNESS TESTING DISCONTINUED



The Halifax Regional Municipality is advising residents that it will no longer conduct the [ice thickness testing program](#).

Over the last number of years, there has been a decline in the number of days available for skating. Based on these changed climate patterns, including rapidly fluctuating temperatures, ice thickness testing is no longer feasible. Residents are asked to take safety precautions for themselves and their families by

avoiding any further recreation activities on frozen lakes and ponds, including walking, snowmobiling, and skating.

The Canadian Red Cross recommends that ice be at least 15 cm thick for individual skating, and at least 20 cm thick for group skating. Extreme caution is advised in areas where streams flow into and out of lakes. It is also important to note that ice conditions may vary over the entire surface of lakes and are subject to change with weather conditions. [Click here](#) to see a complete list of guidelines from the Canadian Red Cross.

### CULTURE AND HERITAGE PRIORITIES PLAN

Regional Council has endorsed the proposed direction in the [Culture and Heritage Priorities Plan](#).

Sharing our Stories: Halifax Regional Municipality's Culture and Heritage Priorities Plan is a comprehensive strategy aimed at promoting and preserving the diverse, cultural heritage of the Halifax region. The plan outlines a set of 44 actions that will help to build a more inclusive, diverse, and vibrant cultural community through focused investment, program development, service delivery and ongoing community engagement. The plan's actions will provide high-level guidance in budget and business planning across municipal departments in the areas of culture and heritage programming and will directly inform the 2023 review of the Regional Municipal Planning Strategy.



## COUNCILLOR CATHY DEAGLE GAMMON

WAVERLEY - FALL RIVER - MUSQUODOBOIT VALLEY

One of the main objectives of the plan is to expand and improve the representation of equity-seeking groups across the municipality, such as Mi'kmaq, African Nova Scotian, Acadian, 2SLGBTQ+, persons with disabilities, and immigrants and newcomers. Engagement with these communities led directly to the development of actions that will enhance the municipality's approach to diversity and inclusion throughout its programs and services. For more information click on this link:

[Making a difference | Regional Council | Halifax.](#)

## DRINKING WATER – EXTREME RAIN EVENTS

To help customers and property owners prepare for extreme rain / weather events, Halifax Water has developed some helpful information that you may access [here](#).

Severe weather can have a significant impact on property. Halifax Water encourages property owners and residents to be prepared and do their utmost to protect their property during extreme rain events. In advance of severe storms, all customers are encouraged to set aside a 72-hour supply of drinking water for each person in the household. If residents experience flooding or other storm-related issues impacting Halifax Water services, they should report them to our [Customer Care Centre](#) 24/7 Emergency Line at 902-420-9287.

### What To Do If Your Water Is Discoloured



It is recommended that those customers experiencing discoloured water run **COLD** water taps until the water runs clear.



Do not use hot water. It will draw discoloured water into your hot water heater/tank where it is harder to flush out.

Halifax Water has analyzed samples of discoloured water, and although it may not smell, taste, or look pleasant, the results have indicated that there are no microbial issues with the water, such as presence of disease-causing bacteria, protozoa or viruses.

Report discoloured water here:  
[halifaxwater.ca/discoloured-water](http://halifaxwater.ca/discoloured-water)

STRAIGHT from  
the SOURCE



2 METRES

To ensure the safety of our communities and our staff, please maintain a safe distance when Halifax Water staff or contractors are working in your area.

## 2022-2023 HALIFACT ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

Regional Council has received the annual report for [HalifACT: Acting on Climate Together](#). This is the municipality's long-term climate action plan to reduce emissions and enhance resiliency to a changing climate, while also promoting social equity and economic development. It was approved unanimously by Regional Council on June 23, 2020, and is one of Canada's most ambitious climate action plans.

HalifACT contains three themes of action:

1. Decarbonized and Resilient Infrastructure
2. Prepared and Connected Communities
3. Governance and Leadership

Within these, there are 17 subareas and 46 actions that are necessary to meet the targets established in the plan. HalifACT addresses the municipality's climate emergency declaration put forward by Regional Council in January 2019





## COUNCILLOR CATHY DEAGLE GAMMON

WAVERLEY - FALL RIVER - MUSQUODOBOIT VALLEY

and aligns with the 1.5°C pathway recommended by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

Acting quickly and effectively to address the climate emergency is complex and cannot be accomplished in isolation. HalifACT is a community plan, requiring not only Halifax Regional Municipality, but all major stakeholders and residents of the Halifax Region to collaborate and take collective action.

For more information, and to view the annual report, read the [staff report](#).

### SLEDGE RACING PROGRAM



[Dartmouth Crossing Speed Skating](#) has introduced a [sledge racing program](#) and will be running a spring sledge program starting in April. All ages and abilities welcome. Contact [info@dcspeedskate.ca](mailto:info@dcspeedskate.ca) or call or text 902-402-0522 for more information or to arrange a free trial session.

### HRM COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM OPEN

2024-25

## Community Grants Program

The 2024 Community Grants Program is now accepting applications. The deadline for submissions is April 1<sup>st</sup>. *Note: the annual deadline of March 31<sup>st</sup> falls on a weekend, so the deadline has been extended to April 1<sup>st</sup>.*

The Program provides annual cash grants to registered non-profit organizations and charities located throughout the Halifax region. There are two types of grants: a project grant of up to \$5,000 OR a capital grant of up to \$25,000.

Applicants should review the [Program Guidebook](#) prior to submitting an [application](#). First-time applicants are encouraged to contact staff prior to submitting an application. The following links will assist you with program information and application process.

[Application \(fillable\)](#)  
[Note on funding limitations to religious charities](#)  
[Community Grants Program Administrative Order](#)

Contact the Community Grants Program by email at: [NonProfitGrants@halifax.ca](mailto:NonProfitGrants@halifax.ca).



## COUNCILLOR CATHY DEAGLE GAMMON

WAVERLEY - FALL RIVER - MUSQUODOBOIT VALLEY

### MIDDLE MUSQUODOBOIT ACTivate PROGRAM



Middle Musquodoboit has been selected as one of five communities to participate in [ACTivate](#), a community development program run jointly by the [Gros Morne Institute for Sustainable Tourism](#) (GMIST) and the [Coady Institute at St. Francis Xavier University](#). Five members of Musquodoboit Valley's emerging Entrepreneurship group have embarked on the year-long ACTivate training program.

The ACTivate program equips citizens with the skills needed to use an Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) approach. This citizen-led process builds community from within, rather than relying on outside 'experts' and top-down models for 'services' that address common issues. Instead of starting by identifying deficits, the ABCD approach reveals and builds upon people's gifts and strengths (assets) and considers how these assets may come together to create changes for the common good within a community. It is about fostering and mobilizing social connections.

### EASTLINK TELE- COMMUNICATION TOWER



Eastlink is issuing a public notification of proposed Eastlink telecommunication structure Proposal: NSA313 – Middle Musquodoboit, ninety-one metre (91m) guyed telecommunication tower PID: 00539817.

Eastlink will be hosting a public information session on Thursday February 22<sup>nd</sup> from 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. at the Musquodoboit Valley Bicentennial Theatre, 12390 NS-224, Middle Musquodoboit.

### HOUSING ACCELERATOR FUND

The Halifax region is experiencing an urgent housing shortage.

High interest rates, rapid population growth and supply shortages have contributed to this lack of housing.



As part of the [Housing Accelerator Fund](#), the municipality is collaborating with partners and other levels of government in a national effort to support housing. The municipality is proposing updates to planning policies to enable more density and flexible housing types in residential



## COUNCILLOR CATHY DEAGLE GAMMON

WAVERLEY - FALL RIVER - MUSQUODOBOIT VALLEY

areas. Public feedback on the proposed changes can be provided until February 16<sup>th</sup>.

To learn more about the Housing Accelerator Fund and the proposed amendments, click [here](#).

### ROAD SAFETY FOCUS - FEBRUARY



The road safety theme for the month of February is **Distracted Driving**. Distracted Driving Collisions are one of the seven emphasis areas in the [Strategic Road Safety Framework](#), indicating that it is a priority area to focus resources to have the greatest impact on reducing fatal and injury collisions. Distracted driving related collisions include all collisions involving driver inattention.

Distracted driving puts you and everyone on the road at risk. It is one of the leading causes of fatal and serious injury collisions in the municipality. From phones to loud music and other passengers (including pets), there are many distractions that can compete for a driver's attention and affect their ability to drive safely. Quickly checking your phone may seem harmless but when you find yourself needing to stop suddenly to avoid a

collision, every second counts. Stay alert. Learn more about road safety by clicking [here](#).

#### Winter Driving Safety Measures:

Drivers should practice safe commuting during the winter months, especially around crosswalks and intersections. Reduce your speed. Scan for pedestrians and other vulnerable road users.

#### Winter Road Safety Tips:

- Get your vehicle ready for winter and beat the rush. Ensure tires, windshield wipers, lights, brakes, etc. are in working order before hitting the road.
- Stay up-to-date with the weather conditions.
- If at all possible, don't drive during a storm. It's much safer to stay at home and wait until conditions improve.
- Drivers are required to remove all snow and ice from your vehicle before each trip. Clear all windows and mirrors of frost and fog.
- Be alert, well rested, and sober behind the wheel. Slow down and wear your seatbelt.
- Adjust your speed to the conditions. Leave extra space between you and the vehicle in front of you so that you can safely slow down and/or stop. Remember not to accelerate or brake too quickly when the roads are slippery. It can take up to 12 times further to stop on snow and ice than on dry pavement.
- Don't make any abrupt turns or stops when driving. Doing so will often cause your vehicle to lose control and skid.





## COUNCILLOR CATHY DEAGLE GAMMON

WAVERLEY - FALL RIVER - MUSQUODOBOIT VALLEY

- Do not use cruise control when driving on any slippery surface, such as on ice and snow.
- Turn on your lights to increase visibility to other motorists.
- Never drive distracted. Keep your hands on the wheel and your eyes on the road. Watch for other road users, pedestrians and cyclists.
- Be mindful that winter conditions can create challenges for pedestrians who may need to walk in the roadway to avoid snow-covered or icy sidewalks.
- Watch out for ice, especially on bridges, overpasses and in shaded areas.
- Never assume that because the temperature is above zero that the roads are safe. Road salt doesn't work miracles, and it is not as effective below -10 degrees Celsius.
- When at a signalized crosswalk, pedestrians can only proceed during the "walk" light. Pedestrians are not permitted to enter a signalized crosswalk when the "don't walk" symbol is displayed, even if it is flashing.
- It's the law to use overhead flashing lights and rectangular rapid flashing beacons at crosswalks. Make sure to press the button where it is available.
- Reminder: Keep an eye out for transit drivers signaling to merge back into traffic. Vehicles are required to yield to transit vehicles signaling to merge into traffic from a stopped, standing or parked position as long as it does not constitute an immediate hazard.

### [Traffic Calming Assessments and Infrastructure Map](#) released:

- To check the traffic calming status of any street in the Municipality, visit our maps website [here](#). Don't see an open traffic calming assessment on your street but would like to initiate one? Contact the HRM [Contact Centre](#) to submit a new request. Have further questions? See our FAQ section [here](#).
- Central to the Council-approved [Strategic Road Safety Framework](#) is the municipality's commitment to a "Towards Zero" approach – with the goal of a 20 per cent reduction in fatal and injury collisions by the end of 2023. A new Road Safety Strategy will be proposed in Spring 2024.

### **Marked/Unmarked Crosswalks:**

Did you know that you are required to yield to a pedestrian in an unmarked crosswalk? As defined by the Nova Scotia Motor Vehicle Act, by legal definition, a crosswalk exists at every intersection whether marked or unmarked and by law a vehicle is required to yield for a pedestrian at a marked or unmarked crosswalk. Failure to yield to pedestrians is a violation of the Motor Vehicle Act. To ensure safety, pedestrians should wait for an adequate gap in traffic or until vehicles have come to a complete stop before entering the street.



## COUNCILLOR CATHY DEAGLE GAMMON

WAVERLEY - FALL RIVER - MUSQUODOBOIT VALLEY

- Road safety is everyone's responsibility whether you're walking, rolling, cycling, or driving.
- The municipality is investing in road safety as it moves toward zero fatalities. Each year, traffic calming and traffic control measures are identified and implemented to ensure the safety of our roads continues to improve for all users. To learn more about our initiatives visit our website [here](#).

Interested in learning more about road safety in HRM and the progress we are making? The [Road Safety Dashboard](#) provides an overview of collision data and allows users to track progress the municipality is making on a number of different road safety initiatives as we work together to accomplish our Towards Zero goals. Collision details are also available on the [Open Data](#) Catalogue.



## IN THE COMMUNITY



I had a busy but fun New Year's Day attending as many of the Levees as possible throughout District 1 including: the [Royal Canadian Legion Branch 147](#) in Upper Musquodoboit, [Wellington Fletchers Lake Station House](#) in Wellington, [Waverley Legion Royal Canadian Legion Dieppe Br90](#) in Waverley and ending at [LWF Community Hall](#) in Fall River. Great people, great music and great communities.

I am truly blessed to be your Municipal Councillor and Deputy Mayor. Wishing everyone best wishes for 2024!





## COUNCILLOR CATHY DEAGLE GAMMON

WAVERLEY - FALL RIVER - MUSQUODOBOIT VALLEY



I was pleased to present a District 1 District Capital Fund cheque, in the amount of \$3,000, to the [LWF Community Hall](#) to support the purchase of a much needed freezer! The freezer will replace three older ones, will be much more energy efficient and spacious. District 1 District Capital funded \$3,000 on a total cost of \$4,500.

Pictured here with me are King Lion Kirk Stephen, LWF Hall Executive members Steve Sinnott and Nick Yeomans.

Proclamation and assist with the flag raising. Also with me were [Nova Scotia Crime Stoppers](#) President John O'Reilly, Chairman of the Halifax board Rob Wade, and Councillor [Tony Mancini](#). Crime Stoppers has been supporting Nova Scotians for 37 years!



Photo courtesy- Steve Sinnott, Chair Waverley Community Association.

It was a cold evening when many wonderful volunteers turned up to flood the outdoor rink on the Waverley Village Green.



January 2024 is Crime Stoppers Month and I was so pleased, as Deputy Mayor, to read the



2024 Business leader of the Year at the [Halifax Chamber of Commerce](#) was none other than [Placemaking 4G Bradley Daye](#). Congratulations Bradley! I'm so pleased for you and the team. Enjoy this well-deserved recognition.





## COUNCILLOR CATHY DEAGLE GAMMON

WAVERLEY - FALL RIVER - MUSQUODOBOIT VALLEY



Enjoyed a wonderful Robbie Burns night at the Bicentennial Theatre in Musquodoboit Valley! Thanks to the organizers, speakers, volunteers and musicians who made the evening a memorable one!



Working lunch meeting with RCMP acting Ops West Officer, Erica Pynn, and a few Council colleagues

Councillors Lisa Blackburn, Iona Stoddard and Patty Cuttell.



A fun afternoon at the McDonald Sports Park today as the Waverley Amateur Athletic Association accepted a donation for the outdoor accessible Pavilion from the Waverley Community Association.

## CHEEMA AQUATIC CLUB

FOR SUMMER 2024



**WE'RE  
HIRING  
NOW!**

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LEAD COACHES  
SUPPORT COACHES  
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BOAT REPAIR & MAINTENANCE

For job descriptions and  
how to apply visit [www.cheema.ca](http://www.cheema.ca)





## COUNCILLOR CATHY DEAGLE GAMMON

WAVERLEY - FALL RIVER - MUSQUODOBOIT VALLEY

### COMMUNITY CENTRES/HALLS

District 1 is home to many Community Halls and Non-Profit Organizations. Check out their website or Facebook pages to find information on local events as well as opportunities to volunteer in your community. Here is a list of some of the great organizations in our district:

- [Elderbanks Recreation Club](#)
- Lemmon Hill Sports Association [Facebook](#)
- [Upper Musquodoboit Nova Scotia Nunavut Command](#)
- [Upper Musquodoboit Community Hall](#)
- Upper Musquodoboit Fellowship Centre (902)568-2536
- [Musquodoboit Valley Bicentennial Theatre](#)
- [Musquodoboit Valley Family Resource Centre](#)
- [Musquodoboit Valley Food Bank](#)
- [Carrolls Corner Community Center](#)
- [Meaghers Grant Community Hall](#)
- [Gordon Snow Community Centre](#)
- [Wellington Fletchers Lake Station House](#)
- [Grand Lake Oakfield Community Centre](#)
- [Waverley Heritage Museum](#)
- [Waverley Legion Dieppe Branch 90](#)
- [LWF Community Hall](#)
- [Windsor Junction Community Centre](#)
- [Helping Hands Families Helping Families](#)
- [Barefoot Farmers Association](#)

For those I have missed this time around please reach out let me know and I will add to the list!

### PROVINCIAL & FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVES

The following are the [provincial](#) Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs) and [federal](#) Members of Parliament (MPs) representatives for [municipal district 1](#).

#### Provincial MLAs:



**MLA Larry Harrison**  
Colchester-  
Musquodoboit Valley  
Constituency office:  
87 Main Street West  
PO Box 219  
Stewiacke, NS B0N 2J0  
Phone: 902-639-1010

Fax: 902-639-2598

Email: [larryharrisonmla@gmail.com](mailto:larryharrisonmla@gmail.com)



**MLA Brian Wong**  
Waverley-Fall River-  
Beaver Bank  
Constituency Office:  
1265 Fall River Road  
Suite 101  
Fall River, NS B2T 1E6  
Phone: 902-576-3411  
Email:

[brianwongmla@gmail.com](mailto:brianwongmla@gmail.com)





## COUNCILLOR CATHY DEAGLE GAMMON

WAVERLEY - FALL RIVER - MUSQUODOBOIT VALLEY

### Federal MPs:



#### MP Sean Fraser

[Central Nova](#)

House of Commons

Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Phone: 613-992-6022

Fax: 613-992-2337

Email:

[sean.fraser@parl.gc.ca](mailto:sean.fraser@parl.gc.ca)

- Accessibility Advisory Committee
- Appeals Standing Committee
- Audit and Finance Committee (Vice Chair)
- Environment and Sustainability Committee
- Executive Standing Committee
- Grants Committee (Chair)
- Halifax Regional Water Commission
- Halifax Partnership
- North West Planning Advisory Committee

### Community Committees:

- Aerotech Community Liaison Community Committee
- Halifax International Airport Authority
- Goffs Quarry Community Liaison

### E-NEWSLETTER/SUBSCRIBE

My monthly e-newsletters are available on my municipal [website](#). I also maintain a mailing distribution list, if you wish to be added to the list, please contact my Council Constituency Coordinator at: 902-490-1562 or email: [Chris.Newson@halifax.ca](mailto:Chris.Newson@halifax.ca).

20



#### MP Darrell Samson

Sackville-Preston-

Chezzetcook

Constituency Office:

2900 Highway 2

Suite 2nd Floor

Fall River, NS B2T 1W4

Phone: 902-861-2311

Fax: 902-861-4620

Email: [darrell.samson@parl.gc.ca](mailto:darrell.samson@parl.gc.ca)

### COUNCILLOR DEAGLE GAMMON



I currently serve on Regional Council, North West Community Council and the following boards and committees:

February 2024

### LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



The Halifax Regional Municipality honours and recognizes the importance of the Indigenous people (First Nation, Métis, and Inuit) and their cultural contributions to the tapestry of our region.

HALIFAX





## COUNCILLOR CATHY DEAGLE GAMMON

WAVERLEY - FALL RIVER - MUSQUODOBOIT VALLEY

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 & Friendship Treaties signed in this Territory and recognizes that we are all Treaty People.

## FEBRUARY IS AFRICAN HERITAGE MONTH

*you may be  
just a person  
for the world  
but for one person  
you may be  
the whole world*

