



COUNCILLOR KATHRYN MORSE

DISTRICT 10
HALIFAX - BEDFORD BASIN WEST



EV CHARGERS ON THE WAY

Electric vehicle chargers are set to be installed at the Canada Games Centre (CGC) this year, among various locations chosen across HRM. HRM, with the support of a federal contribution of nearly \$1 million, will install a total of 56 chargers in the first phase.

This initiative aims to make electric vehicles a more practical and appealing choice. At the CGC, the plan includes one Level 3 (fast charger) and four Level 2s (regular speed). HRM's EV Strategy advocates for hundreds of similar charging stations throughout the municipality to encourage the transition to electric vehicles. To recover installation costs over time, HRM will charge drivers by the minute or hour.

Council approved the electric vehicle strategy in 2021, aligning with the municipality's HalifACT plan to reduce emissions and decarbonize transportation. Rebate is available from the federal and provincial governments for those interested.

SETON ROAD NURSING HOME



Rockingham residents may hear some limited blasting starting in the next few weeks, as construction ramps up for the Shannex nursing home on Seton Road. The nursing home is located uphill from the MSVU campus. It will be six storeys, have 144 single rooms, and will be physically connected by a hallway to Caritas, the Sisters of Charity residence.

Construction is expected to take about two years. Admission to the new nursing home will be through the Province of Nova Scotia's single entry access system. Across the province there are about 2,000 seniors waiting at home or in hospital for long-term care.



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HALIFAX - BEDFORD BASIN WEST

YOUR 2024 PROPERTY ASSESSMENT NOTICE



You should have received your 2024 Property Assessment Notice in the mail in the last few days. Your assessment is calculated by Property Valuation Services Corporation (PVSC), an independent, municipally funded, not-for-profit organization.

PVSC assesses every property in Nova Scotia each year. Your current assessment shows the estimated value of your property on January 1, 2023, based on market sales, financial data and internationally standardized methods.

You can view detailed information about your assessment by accessing "[My Property Report](#)" on the Property Valuation Services Corporation website. Use your Assessment Account Number and PIN (found on your notice) to access your information.

Assessors are available to answer questions by phone (1-800-380-7775) or by email at inquiry@pvsc.ca. If you wish to appeal your assessment you must do so before midnight on February 8th.

IT'S HRM BUDGET SEASON

Regional Council's budget discussions will continue later this month and run until the end of March.

The first all-day meeting is on January 24, when we look at the overall budget in the context of recent property assessments. We will also discuss the capital budget and large projects planned for next year.

After that, each municipal department will present their budgets. The first few sessions will include:

Property, Fleet and Environment on January 31;
Halifax Public Libraries on February 2;
Halifax Regional Police/RCMP on February 7.

Time is set aside at the beginning of every budget meeting for citizens to comment. If you would like to speak to Council about the municipal budget, contact the Municipal Clerks Office at clerks@halifax.ca or call 902-490-4210. Written submissions are also welcome.

The 2024/25 Budget and Business Plan approval date is scheduled for April 23, 2024.

You can find more details about the budget and the full schedule on our [website](#).

KESHEN GOODMAN LIBRARY RENOVATION UPDATE

The Keshen Goodman Public Library is closed until February 4 to complete the next stage of renovations. New shelves and a rooftop mechanical unit will be installed, and equipment will be moved to different sections of the library. The remodeling



COUNCILLOR KATHRYN MORSE

HALIFAX - BEDFORD BASIN WEST

work will continue through March and April.




Book returns and holds will be suspended during this closure. Holds established at Keshen Goodman will only be available again once the library reopens in early February. Customers can pick up holds at other branches as an option. After the closing, there will be an additional deadline for returning anything you borrowed from Keshen Goodman.

Limited services will resume on February 5, offering hold pick-ups and returns, access to public computers, free WiFi, printers, technology lending, and a small collection for browsing. In the interim, patrons are encouraged to explore the E-Library, which is accessible 24/7 and offers digital books, audiobooks, magazines, newspapers, movies, music, and more. For further details, please click [here](#).

POLICE INVESTIGATE ASSAULT NEAR HALIFAX WEST

Halifax Regional Police are investigating a recent assault in a wooded area on Thomas Raddall Drive near Halifax West High School and Keshen Goodman Public Library. On January 4 between noon and 1 p.m., a youth was assaulted by a group of youths. A separate group of youths later discovered the

victim. The victim was taken to hospital with serious injuries.

Anyone with information or video from the area is asked to call police at 902-490-5020. Anonymous tips can be sent to [Crime Stoppers](#) by calling toll-free 1-800-222-TIPS (8477), submitting a secure web tip at Crime Stopper or by using the [P3 Tips app](#). 

THE EMERA OVAL IS OPEN!

The Emera Oval is open for the winter season, welcoming visitors since December 22, 2023. Enjoy outdoor skating along with free equipment rentals, public washrooms, and first aid services.

Plan your visit and access the public skate schedule on our [website](#).

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE JANUARY 9 REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING



At the January 9 Regional Council meeting, several significant decisions were made.

Permitted hours for a specific type of construction noise (concrete pouring and finishing) were extended from 8 p.m. to 9:30 pm.

January 2024

HALIFAX



COUNCILLOR KATHRYN MORSE

HALIFAX - BEDFORD BASIN WEST

The annual progress report on climate actions revealed that one third of the actions outlined in HalifACT are on track. Council approved restrictions to eliminate coastal infilling on the Northwest Arm.

Council also approved the "Sharing Our Stories: HRM's Cultural and Heritage Plan."

"Sharing Our Stories" has 44 recommendations, and will be of interest to anyone engaged in arts or heritage protection within HRM. The plan aims to strengthen citizens' sense of belonging, uphold Truth and Reconciliation principles, support artists and performers, steward heritage and cultural resources, and celebrate diverse cultures.

The comprehensive plan includes actions such as updating heritage legislation, expanding heritage definitions, creating a cultural facilities plan, recognizing Mi'kmaki on major HRM entry point signs, enhancing community garden access, promoting adaptive reuse of municipal heritage properties, developing an interpretive masterplan, and formulating a regional archeology strategy. To access and read the "Sharing Our Stories" report, please navigate to page 10 of this [document](#).

APPLY FOR COMMUNITY GRANTS

Every spring, HRM awards community grants to non-profit groups for a variety of worthy projects.

There are two categories of grants: up to \$5,000 and up to \$25,000. The grants are typically awarded for equipment purchases or building renovations but last year one group in District 10 received a grant to buy new computer software and overhaul their webpage so a variety of projects can qualify. The annual deadline of March 31 falls on a weekend;

January 2024

therefore, the deadline has been extended to April 1.

If you have questions about how to apply, please contact me or check out the details [online](#).

2024-2025

COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN

This program provides cash grants to registered non-profit organizations and charities.

HALIFAX

HIKE WITH FRIENDS OF BLUE MOUNTAIN



The Friends of Blue Mountain-Birch Cove Lakes are hosting guided wilderness hikes later this month. On Wednesday, January 31 there will be 7 km hike to Ash Lake, located about halfway between Kearney Lake and Timberlea. Pre-registration is required. Click here for more [details](#).



COUNCILLOR KATHRYN MORSE

HALIFAX - BEDFORD BASIN WEST

APPLICATIONS OPEN FOR THE NEXT MUNICIPAL POET LAUREATE



The Halifax Regional Municipality has opened applications for the next Municipal Poet Laureate, with the term running from April 1, 2024, to March 31, 2027.

The Poet Laureate, a resident poet or spoken word artist, will act as an ambassador for poetry and the arts, attending events to promote literature and engage the community. The role aims to reflect the diverse interests and perspectives of the Halifax region. The selected individual will receive a \$5,000 annual honorarium for the three-year term.

Application details and further information can be found on our [website](#). Deadline to apply is on February 16 at 4 p.m. For inquiries, contact Lindsay Cory at lindsay.cory@halifax.ca or 902-456-8384.

NEW EMERGENCY SHELTER TO TACKLE HOMELESSNESS CHALLENGES

The Province and the Halifax Regional Municipality are providing more options for people experiencing homelessness to come indoors this winter and receive wrap around services.

The temporary emergency shelter initiative runs from January 22 to August 31 and is located at 6210 Young Street in the Multi-Purpose Centre adjacent to the Halifax Forum. While this option marks a significant step forward, we understand the enduring necessity for more sustainable and affordable housing solutions for individuals experiencing homelessness. We're committed to collaborating with the province to work on longer-term resolutions.

The shelter will operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week, until August 31. Click [here](#) for more information.

CAMP COURAGE FOR TEENS



Know a teen interested in a career as a paramedic, firefighter, or police officer? Tell them about Camp Courage, an 8-day emergency services camp held in early July. Watch this [video](#) for rave reviews about the program.

Applications are open to female and gender-diverse youth between 15-19 years old. Only 24 teens will be selected for this free camp. Apply before March 15. For details click [here](#) or call 902-701-1405.



COUNCILLOR KATHRYN MORSE

HALIFAX - BEDFORD BASIN WEST

A HEARTWARMING INITIATIVE BY I.M. COMMUNITY YOUTH GROUP



During the holidays the I.M. Community youth group prepared and delivered hot meals to individuals experiencing homelessness at Grand Parade. Thank you, Fares Siddiqui and friends for your caring contribution.

FEBRUARY IS AFRICAN HERITAGE MONTH

February is African Heritage Month.

This year's theme, "Our Smiles, Our Joy, Our Resilience," captures the enduring spirit and resilience demonstrated by people of African descent throughout our province's history.

To kick off the celebrations, Halifax Public Libraries will host African Heritage Month Opening Night Celebration on Thursday, January 25, from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Central Library. You can learn more about this event [here](#).

For additional information, please visit Black Cultural Centre for Nova Scotia's [website](#). Let's join in honoring and embracing the rich heritage of

January 2024

African Nova Scotians throughout this special month.



AFRICAN NOVA SCOTIAN ROAD TO ECONOMIC PROSPERITY INFORMATION REPORT

A recent report to the Regional Council highlighted key activities of the Road to Economic Prosperity for African Nova Scotian Communities from September 2022 to September 2023. The report focuses on building unity and capacity, addressing land ownership and infrastructure challenges, and increasing participation in education, employment, and entrepreneurship.

Ongoing collaboration underscores the dedication to positive impacts through strategic actions and partnerships. For more information, read the staff [report](#).



MUSICAL POP-UP PERFORMANCE WITH DEBUT ATLANTIC

There will be a free 30-minute live musical performance featuring Duo Cordelia on Friday,



COUNCILLOR KATHRYN MORSE

HALIFAX - BEDFORD BASIN WEST

February 16 at 11:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. at the Canada Games Centre.

Duo Cordelia is comprised of violinist and composer Vanessa Marcoux and pianist Marie-Christine Poirier. Their mission is to redefine the classical concert experience. They will perform a diverse repertoire spanning the 20th and 21st century, arrangements of traditional melodies, and original compositions by Vanessa.

This event is free and open to the public. For more information click [here](#).

COMMUNITY ACCESS PROGRAM (CAP) APPLICATION



Are you 18-24 years old?

Do you identify as having a disability(ies)?

Want to connect with your community?

Join our **CAP**
COMMUNITY ACCESS PROGRAM

If you're between the ages of 18 and 24, and living in the Halifax area, you might be interested in joining Independent Living Nova Scotia (ILNS) for their Community Access Program (CAP).

This 9-week pre-employment program is great for young adults who are looking to connect with their
January 2024

community, develop life and employment skills, create and achieve goals, and participate in social activities.

CAP will be begin on Monday, February 12. To register and for more information click [here](#). You can also email cap@ilns.ca, or call 902-453-0004. Start the year off right with ILNS through CAP!

HALIFAX TRANSIT'S MOBILE FARE PAYMENT APP



HFXGO provides a secure digital platform for buying, activating, and presenting tickets to operators or ferry security staff. The app offers flexibility by accommodating the continued purchase of paper tickets and passes at retail partners or through cash fares.

To start using HFXGO, users can download the app, create an account, choose tickets, and securely make payments. For more information, visit [HFXGO](#).

TRANSIT CHANGES

Halifax Transit implemented service changes on November 20, 2023 in alignment with the Moving Forward Together Plan. These adjustments involve Route 28 Bayers Lake, the introduction of two

HALIFAX

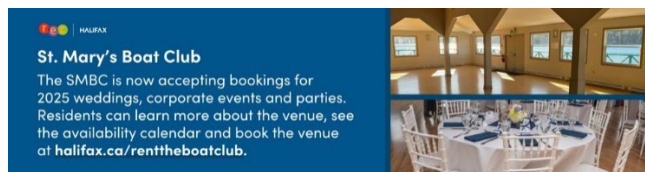


COUNCILLOR KATHRYN MORSE

HALIFAX - BEDFORD BASIN WEST

branches for Route 51 A/B Windmill, extension of Route 56 Dartmouth Crossing, and an extension of Route 72 Portland Hills. Furthermore, 22 routes underwent minor schedule adjustments to enhance service quality, and 26 routes had 55 trips reinstated, with 12 routes returning to full service. Residents can access detailed route descriptions on [website](#) and stay updated on [X](#).

2025 BOOKINGS OPEN FOR THE ST. MARY'S BOAT CLUB



The 2025 booking calendar for the Saint Mary's Boat Club (SMBC) is now open, facilitated by Parks & Rec. The reception hall is available for rent all year round and is a popular venue for parties, wedding receptions and corporate functions. The club grounds offer a breathtaking view of the Northwest Arm, with a large deck and the upper level of the SMBC offers a reception hall with beautiful hardwood floors, a stage area, and a kitchen. To book call or email 902-490-4688, boatclub@halifax.ca.

SNOW REMOVAL ASSISTANCE

The Senior Snow Removal program is designed to support seniors in maintaining safe pathways around their homes, particularly during snowy weather. In collaboration with the Halifax Regional Municipality, the YMCA oversees this program, focusing on clearing front and back steps, walkways, ramps, and access to fuel tanks. It's important to

note that driveways are not covered under this program.

Eligibility for participation is based on residing in a single dwelling, meeting specific income criteria, and not being a landlord. As spaces are limited, participation is granted on a first-come, first-serve basis. For further details, please click [here](#) or contact us at 902-483-3678.

WINTER PARKING BAN



The municipality is reminding residents of the ongoing winter season and the current enforcement of the overnight winter parking ban from December 15, 2023, to March 31, 2024. Enforced between 1 a.m. and 6 a.m. during snow and ice events, the ban may have two zones: Zone 1 – Central (Halifax Peninsula and downtown Dartmouth) and Zone 2 – Non-Central (areas outside Zone 1). Residents can check their zone on the [interactive map](#). Communication about the ban includes [public service announcements](#). For more details, please watch this [video](#).



HEATING ASSISTANCE REBATE PROGRAM

Application for the [Heating Assistance Rebate Program](#) is still ongoing. It aims to support low- and moderate-income households. This program offers rebates of \$600 for each household to help alleviate the burden of heating costs. Don't forget, the application deadline for this program is March 31.

Seniors can also benefit from the [Seniors Care Grant](#), specifically aiding them with heating costs during the colder months. The process takes about 8 weeks, and updates on the application status are available online. Here is how to [start](#).

SALVATION ARMY HEAT FUND



The Home Energy Assistance Top-up (HEAT) Fund, operational for over 20 years, supports Nova Scotians with winter heating costs. Open until funds are depleted, the program offers one-time assistance, up to \$400, to eligible residents facing financial challenges. Eligibility criteria include Nova Scotia residency, outstanding electric bills, no HEAT Fund assistance in the past 24 months, and income thresholds. Required application documents include heating source receipts, proof of income, and heating supplier details.

To apply or learn more, contact 902-422-3435 or click [here](#).

WINTER OPERATIONS

Throughout each weather event, dedicated crews have been tirelessly clearing approximately 4,322 lane kilometers of streets. To put it in perspective, that's equivalent to driving from Halifax to Winnipeg. Additionally, the teams have ensured the clearance of about 1,000 kilometers of sidewalks, six kilometers of protected bike lanes/local street bikeways, 11 kilometers of multi-use pathways, and approximately 2,300 bus stops across the municipality.

While the weather remains beyond our control, collaborative efforts have allowed us to be better prepared for the challenges that winter brings. For comprehensive details about our Winter Operations Program and valuable tips to enhance your winter readiness, please click [here](#). To experience a deeper understanding of our service delivery during winter, take a minute to watch this informative [video](#).

311 CONTACT CENTRE

More than a telephone number, 311 is your direct connection to municipal services. Email contactus@311.halifax.ca or call 311 and speak to our helpful operators for information about anything HRM-related: property taxes, illegally parked vehicles, recreation services, pet licenses, by-law concerns, litter and more:

Monday to Friday
8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Saturday & Sunday
9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.



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HALIFAX - BEDFORD BASIN WEST

WINTER GREEN CART TIPS

As we navigate through the ongoing winter season, it's crucial to address potential freezing issues with green carts. Here are some helpful tips to ensure a smoother experience for both residents and waste haulers:

- Line the bottom of the green cart with newspaper or boxboard, like a cereal box or yard waste bag, and line your mini-bin and green cart with a paper bag
- Food waste can be stored in the freezer until collection day, then deposited in your green cart just before collection
- Place your green cart in an area where the sun can reach it, if possible (to avoid freezing!)
- Wrap food scraps in newspaper, boxboard, or a paper bag
- Put out your green cart to the curb for every collection, even if the cart is not full

More information on green carts can be found on the Halifax [webpage](#).

Thank you for your continued cooperation in maintaining an efficient waste management system during the winter months.



DOWNLOAD THE HALIFAX RECYCLES APP

The Halifax Recycles app is a convenient tool to enhance your recycling experience. Download the app today to enjoy the following features:

E-NEWSLETTER/SUBSCRIBE

I send this monthly e-newsletters to community members. If you'd like to keep up to date with District 10 and Regional Council news, please get in touch with my Council Constituency Coordinator, Sarah Edjemudiare.



COUNCILLOR KATHRYN MORSE

HALIFAX - BEDFORD BASIN WEST

CONTACT INFORMATION

Kathryn Morse, Councillor

District 10 – Halifax – Bedford Basin West

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Council Constituency Coordinator:

Sarah Edjemudiare

Phone: 902-943-1169

Email: Sarahagaren.edjemudiare@halifax.ca

CURRENTLY SERVING ON:

- Regional Council
- Halifax and West Community Council
- Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee
- Canada Games Centre Board
- Centennial Arena Board

UPCOMING EVENTS



January 24

National Girl Child Day

Bell Let's Talk Day (Last Wednesday in January)

January 24

International Day of Education

January 27

International Holocaust Remembrance Day

January 29

World Leprosy Day (Last Sunday in January)

January 2024

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Monday, January 22

10 a.m.

Executive Standing Committee

Tuesday, January 23

10 a.m.

Halifax Regional Council

Wednesday, January 24

9:30 a.m.

Budget Committee

6 p.m.

Regional Centre Community Council

Thursday, January 25

1 p.m.

Cancelled - Transportation Standing Committee

Friday, January 26

9:30 a.m.

Budget Committee - Contingency

Tuesday, January 30

6 p.m.

Halifax Regional Council – If Required Public Hearings

Wednesday, January 31

9:30 a.m.

Budget Committee



COUNCILLOR KATHRYN MORSE

HALIFAX - BEDFORD BASIN WEST

FEDERAL/PROVINCIAL REPRESENTATIVES IN DISTRICT 10

Lena Metlege Diab, Member of Parliament

District government office
401-3845 Joseph Howe Dr
Halifax, Nova Scotia B3L 4H9
lenametlege.diab@parl.gc.ca
(902) 426-2217

Hon. Patricia Arab, MLA for Fairview-Clayton Park

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