

COUNCILLOR PATTY CUTTELL DISTRICT 11 NEWSLETTER

Spryfield - Sambro Loop - Prospect Rd



HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

WINTER 2024

DEAR RESIDENTS

While we are in the wintery depths of February, earlier this month Shubenacadie Sam did not see her shadow, predicting an early spring. For the love of snowplowing, we can hope. There is still some winter to go, so please remember to check the snow clearing standards for your street at www.halifax.ca/snow or report issues to 311. If you are on a provincial road, call 511.

Meanwhile, February and March is budget season at City Hall. Halifax has one of the most transparent and involved budget process of any level of government. Like all of us, there are many pressures on the municipality this year with rising costs and increased demands. Did you know that of all the taxes collected from people in Canada (including sales, income, employment), only 8-10 per cent go to municipal governments? Read on for more information about the budget process, and how you can participate.

This past year there has been a lot of progress in District 11. We saw speed bumps installed on several streets, new crosswalks, and reduced speeds in residential communities. We have new playgrounds, with more coming including an exciting new accessible playground in Herring Cove. And work has started on the design for a new arena in Spryfield. Housing has also been a major focus with work starting on a new suburban plan, \$79.3 million in federal funding to support housing development, and action taken on homelessness. I'm also pleased with progress made supporting our rural communities, including the new Rural Recreation Strategy.

It is a privilege being your municipal councillor, and together we can continue to make a positive difference in our region. The suggestions you share help shape the future of our communities, so please give me a call or send an email. To receive regular updates on things happening in District 11, please sign up for my e-newsletter which is published on a monthly basis.

Best wishes,



CONTACT ME

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STAY CONNECTED ON SOCIAL



Patty Cuttelli, Councillor District 11 Spryfield - Sambro Loop - Prospect Rd or @pattycuttell11



@pattycuttell11

CONTACT MY OFFICE

Michelle Egan, Council Constituency Coordinator

Email: michelle.egan@halifax.ca / **Phone:** 902.490.6982

Please email Michelle to sign up for my e-newsletter.

CONTACT 311

Call **311** or email ContactUs@311.halifax.ca

Visit halifax.ca/311 to report a municipal issue. Please call 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday to Friday and 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, except Christmas and New Year's Day.

HALIFAX



DISTRICT 11 NEWSLETTER WINTER 2024

MUNICIPAL UPDATES

UPDATE ON HOMELESSNESS

The Province and the Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM) are providing more options for people experiencing homelessness to come indoors this winter and receive wraparound services.

A new temporary emergency shelter opened Monday, January 22, in Halifax. Located in the Multi-Purpose Centre at the Halifax Forum, it will operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week, until August 31.

The shelter will house 50 beds – 35 for men and 15 for women, and can add capacity based on community need and extreme weather events. Capacity will increase to 70 over the coming weeks, with the shelter offering privacy, showers and storage for people staying there. For the latest information about recent and ongoing efforts please visit www.halifax.ca/about-halifax/regional-community-planning/helping-address-homelessness.

THE SUBURBAN PLAN

The Suburban Plan is a new planning document being completed over the next four to five years to help guide the development of suburban communities. The goal is to improve and create new land use policies and refresh current policies to reflect the needs of modern suburbs. To receive updates on about the suburban plan, email suburbanplan@halifax.ca. You can learn more at www.shapeyourcityhalifax.ca/regional-plan.

HOUSING ACCELERATOR FUND

The municipality is facing significant challenges related to housing affordability and availability. Population growth has led to a rising demand for housing that the current rate of residential construction cannot meet. As of 2023, the municipality's housing shortage is estimated at almost 20,000 units – and the shortage is growing. As part of the federal Housing Accelerator Fund (HAF) agreement, the municipality is looking at allowing a minimum of four units in all residential zones within the Urban Service Area among other planning changes to enable more housing.

For any questions, residents can contact haf@halifax.ca.

For more information and to see what is being proposed for Spryfield, visit www.halifax.ca/about-halifax/regional-community-planning/housing-accelerator-fund.

PARTICIPATE IN THE 2024/25 BUDGET

Beginning on Wednesday, January 31, municipal business units started to present their proposed budgets and business plans for the 2024/25 fiscal year.

Setting the annual budget is very important for the operation of our municipality. It determines all funds associated with servicing our municipality each year, ensuring our roads are plowed during a snowstorm, we have recreational facilities to enjoy, our garbage is picked up, planning projects advanced, and so much more

You can review the proposed schedule of budget presentations, learn about the budget process, and keep up to date on milestones as they become available at www.halifax.ca/budget.

During every budget meeting, members of the public have an opportunity to share their views on any aspect of the proposed municipal budget. Or, you can speak directly to me as your Regional Council representative about budget priorities. If you wish to make a presentation before Budget Committee, please contact the Municipal Clerks Office at clerks@halifax.ca or call 902.490.4210. Written submissions are also welcomed.

NEW ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES WITH BIG CHANGES COMING TO DISTRICT 11

Last year, an Electoral Boundary Review was conducted by a District Boundary Resident Review Panel (DBRR). The Municipal Government Act (MGA) requires that all municipalities in Nova Scotia regularly conduct a review of the number and boundaries of electoral districts. With population growth throughout the municipality, several changes were recommended to electoral districts, and in particular to District 11.

The Utility and Review Board (UARB) released their final decision on December 21, 2023, with adjustments to both the Spryfield boundary and the Prospect Road boundary, in response to concerns and requests brought forward by residents.

Continued on next page



DISTRICT 11 NEWSLETTER WINTER 2024

(Continued - New Electoral Boundaries)

The biggest change to the current District 11 is the division of Spryfield-Sambro Loop from the Prospect communities. Spryfield-Sambro Loop, along with the addition of communities from Williams Lake Rd to Osbourne and Reserve Rd, will form a new District 11, uniting the Chebucto Peninsula. Prospect communities will join other communities along the 333, as well as Tantallon, Head of St Margaret's Bay, and Hubbards.

You can read more about the rationale for these changes in the UARB decision. The changes to the electoral boundaries will come into effect with the 2024 municipal election, scheduled to take place October 19, 2024. You can find more information about the new districts, including the current and new detailed maps at www.halifax.ca/city-hall/elections/district-boundaries.

2024 COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM

The 2024 Community Grants Program provides annual cash grants to registered non-profit organizations and charities located throughout the Halifax region. The program began accepting applications in January 2024 and are accepting applications until April 1, 2024. 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.

Application forms and program guidebooks are available at www.halifax.ca/business/doing-business-halifax/community-grants. For more information, contact 311, email nonprofitgrants@halifax.ca or call 902.497.0479.

COMMUNITY NEWS

COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION TEAM LAUNCHED IN SPRYFIELD

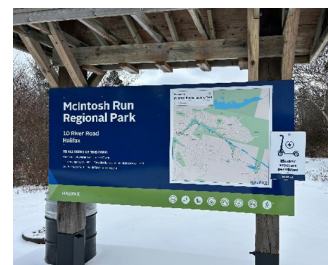
Community Mobilization Teams (CMT) support the response and recovery from traumatic incidents by involving local residents who are supported by municipal resources to address individual and community needs, coordinate community debriefings, and share timely information. CMTs are based on a partnership among local residents, community organizations, and the municipality. They build on community strengths to

develop and implement practical solutions to increase safety and empower residents and community-based organizations. An essential step in establishing an effective crisis response is ensuring the community has the necessary capacity to support itself. This program is unique to Halifax and is part of Halifax's 2023-2026 Public Safety Strategy. To learn more or get involved in the Spryfield CMT, please email cmt@halifax.ca.

QUICK UPDATES

McIntosh Run Regional Park Signage Refresh

Trailhead signs throughout McIntosh Run Regional Park have received a refresh, including new maps.



Halifax Exhibition Grounds

An application for the Halifax Exhibition lands on Prospect Road has been received. The next step in this process is for an initial report, which will have a recommendation for a public participation program and will be brought to Regional Council for approval.

Playground Replacements in 2024

Three playgrounds in District 11 are on the list for replacement during the next fiscal year: Graves-Oakley Memorial Park, William King Elementary School Park, and Yeadon Green Park. This is subject to approval of the 2024/2025 Municipal Budget.

More traffic calming in Spryfield for 2024

Building on several traffic calming projects installed over the past three years, I'm excited to announce that two more streets have been approved for traffic calming for the 2024 construction season - Thornhill and Tartan Ave in Thornhill Park, subject to the approval of the 2024/2025 Municipal Budget.

Crosswalk for Herring Cove and Levis

After getting many requests from residents, a crosswalk at the intersection of Herring Cove Road and Levis to the Captain Spry Centre has been approved for this year, subject to approval of the 2024/2025 Municipal Budget.



DISTRICT 11 NEWSLETTER WINTER 2024

Crosswalk Assessment for Pinedale

The municipality will work with Nova Scotia Public Works (NSPW) to determine the potential for a marked crosswalk at the intersection of Pinedale and Prospect Road. NSPW will be gathering information in the spring or summer when the weather is warmer to provide a better idea of the typical pedestrian activity at this location to determine if it qualifies for a crosswalk.

Rezoning for Long-term Care Home Approved for Marie Ave

The approximately 120 bed, three-storey, long-term care home will be built on the site of the old Holly Drive School off Marie Avenue.

Community Engagement for Beechville-Goodwood Boundary Report

As part of the supplementary report requested by Council in June, the municipality will be conducting a community consultation program with Goodwood. The program will involve an online survey launching in February, and staff meetings with interest groups including PROBE, Beechville Community Development Association, and the Western Common Advisory Committee. Residents without computers requiring a mail-in survey will be provided that option. Watch for notices by mail.

PROTECTING THE NORTHWEST ARM FROM INFILL

On January 9, Regional Council voted unanimously to approve amendments to land-use regulations to protect the Northwest Arm from further infilling. These new regulations will help further protect the historical recreational character of the Northwest Arm by ensuring that the narrow ocean inlet continues to serve the needs of all residents of the municipality. Achieving this new level of protection for the Arm was a big win in the spirit of public good over private interests. It was the result of a collaborative effort between residents, community organizations, members of Council, HRM staff, as well as the Federal government.

In particular I want to thank Member of Parliament Andy Filmore and his office for working closely with me on this.



Announcing protection of the Northwest Arm- with MP Andy Filmore.



Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Fire Station 60 in Herring Cove.



Celebrating Sambro receiving the Lieutenant Governor's Community Spirit Award.



Please recycle.

Delivery Note:

Due to the delivery routes followed by Canada Post, it is possible that some of these newsletters may appear in other Districts. If you receive it in error, I apologize for any confusion and hope you find its content useful.

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