



COUNCILLOR IONA STODDARD
DISTRICT 12 ONLINE NEWS
TIMBERLEA - BEECHVILLE - CLAYTON PARK - WEDGEWOOD

WELCOME FEBRUARY!

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Wondering what to do this month? There are many options available such as exploring African Heritage and Family Day events as well as checking in with Shubenacadie Sam to see whether there will be six more

weeks of winter or an early spring! You may also consider attending (virtually) Budget Committee meetings and giving your input on how to shape the 2022/23 municipal operating and capital budgets.

Keep reading for more updates on a variety of subjects of interest to residents of District 12 such as the Otter Lake facility, solid waste/recyclable collection schedules, Halifax Transit service disruptions, Budget Committee meeting dates and much more!

To discuss municipal programs or services, contact me at **902.240.7926** or email Iona.Stoddard@halifax.ca.

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HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL / HALIFAX & WEST COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Meetings of Halifax Regional Council / Budget Committee and Halifax & West Community Council will take place virtually on the following dates:

Regional Council:

Tuesday, February 8th at 10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, February 15th at 10:00 a.m. (If required)

Budget Committee:

Wednesday, February 2nd at 9:30 a.m.

Friday, February 4th at 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday, February 9th at 9:30 a.m.

Friday, February 11th at 9:30 a.m. (Contingency Date)

Wednesday, February 16th at 9:30 a.m.

Friday, February 18th at 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday, February 23rd at 9:30 a.m.

Friday, February 25th (Contingency date)

Halifax & West Community Council:

Wednesday, February xx at 6:00 p.m.

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

HALIFAX & WEST COMMUNITY COUNCIL UPDATES

At the January 18th meeting of the Halifax & West Community Council, consideration was given to the following:

[Case 20226: Land Use By-law amendment to reduce parking requirements for community centres in Timberlea, Lakeside, Beechville](#)

First Reading given to consider approval of the proposed amendment to the Land Use By-law for Timberlea/Lakeside/Beechville, to reduce the parking requirements for recreation facilities and community centres.

[Case 23483: Fourteenth Amending Agreement to allow residential development on the reserved school site on Amalfi Way in Brunello, Timberlea](#)

Notice of Motion to consider the proposed amending agreement to change development permitted on the subject sites from a public school to residential **deferred** until such time as an updated letter is received from the Halifax Regional Centre for Education regarding the sale of the property.

For more information on the Halifax & West Community Council and to view the full meeting agenda or video, click [here](#).

AFRICAN HERITAGE MONTH



The theme for this year's African Heritage Month is: ***Through Our Eyes: The Voices of African Nova Scotians*** which recognizes the long-standing history of people of African Descent in the development of Canada. This theme explores and examines the affects of anti-black racism and the voice of African Nova

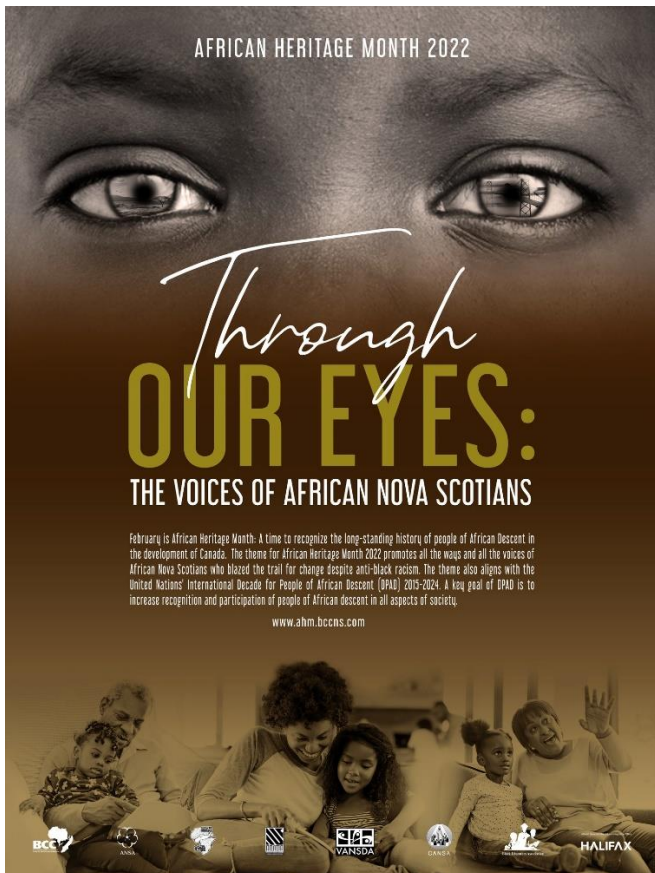


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Scotians who blazed the trail for change. The theme also aligns with the United Nations' International Decade for People of African Descent (DPAD) 2015-2024. The goal of DPAD is to strengthen global cooperation in support of people of African descent, increase awareness and the passage towards presence in all aspects of society.

Nova Scotia has over 50 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 of our people – past and present.



FEBRUARY 2022

PROPERTY TAX REBATE FOR SENIORS



Property Tax Rebate for Seniors helps low-income seniors with the cost of municipal residential property taxes. Rebates are

50% of what you paid on last year's property taxes, up to a maximum of \$800. The program accepts applications starting on July 1st, 2022 with a deadline of December 31st, 2022.

To qualify for the rebate, you need to meet the following criteria:

- your municipal residential property taxes are paid in full
- you lived at the property as your primary residence
- you receive or are eligible to receive the [Guaranteed Income Supplement](#) (GIS) or the [Allowance](#) from Service Canada

If you are not already receiving the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) or the Allowance, you can check with Service Canada to confirm eligibility.

For more information please contact your local Access Nova Scotia office (300 Horseshoe Lake Drive in Bayers Lake Business Park) or call 902-424-5200.

SENIORS CARE GRANT

Service Nova Scotia & Internal Services' new grant program on behalf of the Department of Seniors and Long-term Care is now accepting



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applications.

The Seniors Care Grant is an annual reimbursement program of up to \$500 to help cover the costs of household services. It can be used to reimburse costs for such things as snow removal, home repairs, lawn care, grocery delivery, and more. It is available to homeowners and renters.

The applicant must meet the following criteria to be eligible for the program:

- They must still reside in their home
- The property or lease agreement must be in their name or include their name
- They are 65 years of age or over
- They have an annual household net income of \$37,500 or less

Applications may be submitted online at:

www.novascotia.ca/seniorscaregrant or, by paper applications available at MLA offices as well as Access Nova Scotia Offices.

The deadline to apply is May 31st.

For more information please visit

www.novascotia.ca/seniorscaregrant or call 1.800.670.4357.

The Home Energy Assistance Top-up (HEAT) Fund supports Nova Scotians in need with home heating cost during the winter months.

The deadline for all 2021 applications has been extended indefinitely, meaning those who received funds in 2020, may also apply in 2021.

The HEAT Fund offers a maximum assistance in the amount of \$400 for individuals and families. You can download an application here: <https://salvationarmy.ca/maritime/home/programs/heat/>



THE HEAT FUND



Helping Nova Scotians in need with home heating costs.

The Home Energy Assistance Top-Up (HEAT) Fund provides up to \$400 for these income thresholds:

- \$29,000 for a 1-person household
- \$47,703 for a 2-4 person household
- \$67,937 for households with 5+ people

Apply **online** or by **phone**:

www.SalvationArmy.ca/Maritime/Heat
902-422-3435

The Fund is proudly administered by The Salvation Army.

CITIZENS ON PATROL



The community based crime prevention initiative, Citizens on Patrol (COP), is seeking new volunteers province-wide to help keep communities safe. The successful program, running for decades, is a partnership between police and volunteers that helps ensure safe homes and safe



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communities. COP volunteers are trained by the RCMP and are the eyes and ears of their communities.

Volunteers contribute a minimum of four volunteer hours each month. COP members make observations and take notes of areas visited throughout their communities and should suspicious or unlawful activity be observed, RCMP dispatch is contacted and details of the suspicious or unlawful activity is reported for appropriate police response.

In order to become a COP volunteer, you must:

- Be at least 19 years of age
- Possess a valid driver's license and maintain a good driving record
- Complete an interview
- Pass the security screening required by the RCMP

If Citizens on Patrol is just the opportunity you're looking for, contact the RCMP at hdiv.volunteer@rcmp-grc.gc.ca and provide your name, address, phone number and nearest RCMP detachment.

HALIFAX TRANSIT SERVICE DISRUPTIONS



Both Alderney and Woodside ferry service have returned to regular service as of January 10th.

Check [here](#) for current status of Halifax Transit conventional bus service.

Halifax Transit has switched to an automated method for delivering service alerts. To facilitate

this new functionality, a new Halifax Transit Twitter account has been created.

Halifax Transit Alerts

Automated Tweets with information on:

- Current detours
- Current stop closures
- Current service cancellations

If the below account shows no tweets, there are currently no detours, stop closures, or cancellations.

This account is automated and not monitored.

For questions, visit halifax.ca/transit or follow @hfxtransit



The new account, [@hfxtransitalert](https://twitter.com/hfxtransitalert), is fully automated and linked to the CAD/AVL solution in use at Halifax Transit (the same system that powers our [GTFS real-time feed](#)).

SOLID WASTE COLLECTION SCHEDULE

HRM's solid waste collection schedule will not be mailed out this year. To get a calendar, you can use the free Halifax Recycles app, call 311 to have a schedule mailed to you, visit your local library, or customer service centre, or visit: <http://halifax.ca/whatgoeswhere> and enter your address to get a custom calendar.

WASTE COLLECTION SCHEDULE 2022

Download the Halifax Recycles app and enter your address to get a custom collection calendar.

First out What Goes Where
 • Create a personalized collection calendar
 • Receive notifications by app, email, text or phone call
 • Receive advance notice of special events
 • Receive real-time status of whether roads are closed

Is your phone or tablet? No problem. This information can be found online: halifax.ca/whatgoeswhere

AREA II

- Springdale
- Bedford
- Wolferton Lake
- Hammonds Plains
- Conroy Settlement
- Lake Egmont
- Elsiebank
- Magdalen's Grant
- Pleasant
- Minasodroit Valley
- Tatlayton
- Pleasant
- Tatlayton
- Elsiebank
- Spring Harbour
- Hopedale
- Upper Tatlayton
- Beechville
- Lakeside
- Timberlea
- Haldy
- St. Margaret's Bay
- Piggy's Cove
- Lanesville
- Lake Echo
- Herring Cove
- Porters Lake
- Chazytonook
- Elsiebank

The following communities receive their Biweekly Recyclable collection with garbage collection:
 Peppersack, Minasodroit Harbour, Jeddore, Lake Charles, Clair Bay, Middle Minasodroit
 If your community is not listed, please check Area I or call 311 for assistance.

■ Organics & Recycling collection
■ Garbage collection
■ Holiday (no collection)
■ Alternate collection day for holidays

Month	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
JANUARY 2022	28	29	30	31			
FEBRUARY 2022							
MARCH 2022							
APRIL 2022							
MAY 2022							
JUNE 2022							
JULY 2022*							
AUGUST 2022*							
SEPTEMBER 2022*							
OCTOBER 2022							
NOVEMBER 2022							
DECEMBER 2022							



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RCMP SNOWMOBILING TIPS



With the winter weather upon us and the recent snowfall, snowmobile enthusiasts have begun to

take to trails across Nova Scotia to enjoy some winter fun.

Here are some tips to keep in mind before you head out on the trails:

- Always check the weather conditions before you leave
- Never ride alone
- Take a cell phone in case of emergency
- Have a map and take note of shelters available along the way
- Let someone know your plans, where you are going, the route you plan on taking and the time you expect to return
- Always wear protective clothing, including a helmet, gloves and eye protection. Wear layers of clothing to keep warm and dry
- When possible, avoid crossing bodies of water. If you are crossing bodies of water, never ride in single file and wear a life jacket over your outer clothing
- Ride at a reasonable rate of speed. Know your riding partner's driving limitations as well as your own and operate only at a speed that allows you both to remain in total control of your snowmobiles
- Ride sober. Don't drink or consume drugs before or while snowmobiling
- When venturing into remote areas, snowmobilers should be alert and take all

precautions necessary, as help could be several hours away

Cpl. Chris Marshall of the Nova Scotia RCMP reminds us that: *“Every year the RCMP in Nova Scotia responds to fatal collisions involving snowmobiles on our trails. We also respond to complaints involving stranded snowmobilers who did not bring enough provisions or clothing that is warm enough, for their trip. Before you head out on the trails this season make sure you are prepared and always ride sober”.*

Let's all do our part to ensure a fun and safe snowmobile season for all!

BUDGET 2022/23 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION



Here is your opportunity to be an active participant in planning the 2022/23 municipal capital & operating budgets for HRM.

The following dates have been set aside for virtual business unit business plan and budget presentations at Regional Council.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

You will have an opportunity to speak directly to Regional Council about budget priorities. Time will be set aside for the public to provide insight and comments at each meeting. **To be added to the speakers list for virtual meetings, pre-registration is required no later than 4:30 p.m. the business day prior to the meeting.** Registration information will be included on the [meeting agenda page](#) for each meeting. For any



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questions about registration, residents may contact the Clerk's Office at 902-490-4210 or clerks@halifax.ca.

PROCESS:

Each business unit will present their proposed business plan and budget. Agendas, including presentation times, will be available on halifax.ca.

Regional Council will debate budget changes and refer them for final decision on Wednesday, March 23rd. Full approval of the budget will be on Tuesday, April 12th.

PRESENTATION SCHEDULE:

Business unit budget presentations are scheduled as follows:

Wednesday, February 2nd

- Corporate & Customer Services
- Chief Administrative Office
- Auditor General

Friday, February 4th

- Legal & Legislative Services
- Finance & Asset Management
- Human Resources & Corporate Communications
- IT

Wednesday, February 9th

- Transportation & Public Works

Contingency date: Friday, February 11th

Wednesday, February 16th

- Halifax Transit
- Parks & Recreation

Friday, February 18th

- Planning & Development

Wednesday, February 23rd

- Halifax Regional Police
- RCMP

Contingency date: Friday, February 25th

Wednesday, March 2nd

- Halifax Regional Fire & Emergency
- Halifax Public Libraries

Contingency date: Friday, March 4th

Wednesday, March 23rd

- Recommendation Report and Presentation: Budget Adjustment List (BAL) review

Contingency date: Friday, March 25th

Tuesday, April 12th

- Full review of final budget

Contingency date: Tuesday, April 26th

Meeting dates are subject to change. Updates will be communicated on halifax.ca/budget.

For more information, visit halifax.ca/budget.

HERITAGE DAY – FEBRUARY 21st



Introduced in 2015, this provincial, annual holiday [honours a different person or event](#), chosen by Nova Scotian school children. Primary to

Grade 12 classes were invited to submit their suggestions for significant cultural and historical contributions that should be honoured during future Heritage Day celebrations. In 2022, we celebrate the Landscape of Grand-Pré National



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Historic Site to mark the 10th anniversary of the Landscape of Grand-Pré becoming a UNESCO World Heritage site. We celebrate the rich heritage of this landscape which features a traditional agricultural settlement still in use today and an iconic place of memory for the Acadian diaspora.

Located in the southern Minas Basin of Nova Scotia, the Grand-Pré marshland and archaeological sites constitute a cultural landscape bearing testimony to the development of agricultural farmland using dykes and the aboiteau wooden sluice system, started by the Acadians in the 17th century and further developed and maintained by the Planters and present-day inhabitants. The landscape is an exceptional example of the adaptation of the first European settlers to the conditions of the North American Atlantic coast, which was made possible with the help and vital support of the Mi'kmaw people. The site is also inscribed as a major place of memory to Acadians.



OTTER LAKE FACILITY – UPDATE



Here is the most recent update on the status of the application to Nova Scotia Environment and Climate Change (NSECC) to deactivate the Front End Processor and Waste Stabilization Facility (FEP/WSF) at the Otter Lake Waste Processing & Disposal Facility, as well as the public consultation process.

On July 20, 2021 Regional Council accepted staff recommendations, including to submit an application to NSECC, to deactivate the FEP/WSF. View the staff report [here](#).

An application to pause the FEP/WSF was submitted to NSECC in August 2021. As part of the application consideration, NSECC requested that the Municipality and site operator, Mirror Nova Scotia Inc., conduct public consultation for the residents located within a five-kilometer radius of the Otter Lake facility.

A public consultation process ran from November 3rd to December 3rd, 2021 targeted to residents located within a five-kilometre radius of the Otter Lake facility, however; all residents



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across the municipality were able to provide feedback.

Following the conclusion of the public consultation process, a report was developed by Dillon Consulting Ltd. and, in January 2022, submitted to the NSECC. The full report, with all survey results, can be found on the project web page at halifax.ca/otterlake.

Residents may contact otterlake@halifax.ca with concerns or questions regarding the application including mitigation measures.

PARK & RECREATION FEE CHANGES



On April 1st, 2022 the Parks and Recreation Fee structure will be changing. These changes will affect all recreation services, programs, rentals, drop ins, voucher and memberships fees.

This does not mean prices are going up across the board; as a result of the fee structure

changes that was approved by regional council, some fees are increasing in cost while others are staying the same or decreasing. Please see the full list of [fee structure changes here](#).

The updated fee structure will reflect the actual cost of providing recreation services to residents. Learn more and explore a list of FAQs at halifax.ca/parks-rec-fee-changes.

SENIORS SNOW REMOVAL PROGRAM



The program offers assistance to clear snow from steps and walkways, including: Front and back steps, walkways, ramps and access to fuel tanks. **The program does not apply to the clearing of driveways.**

The YMCA Senior Snow Removal program operates on a first-come, first-serve basis. When maximum capacity is reached, registration will come to a close and individuals will be placed on a wait list. [Application Package for 2021/2022 YMCA Senior Snow Removal](#).

Call (902) 483-3678 or visit the [YMCA online](#) for more information.



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HRM SNOW REMOVAL STANDARDS

With each weather event, crews are responsible for approximately:

- 3,844 lane kilometres of streets. Stretched end to end, that's the same distance as driving from Halifax to Winnipeg.
- 1,000 kilometres of sidewalks
- six kilometers of protected bike lanes/local street bikeways
- 11 kilometers of multi-use pathways
- 2,300 bus stops

For more information on the municipality's Winter Operations program, and tips to help you prepare for inclement weather, please visit www.halifax.ca/snow.

Winter weather brings some extra challenges to us all and it can be frustrating as we wait at home for our street or sidewalk to be cleared. However, HRM has service standards for streets, sidewalks, and bus stops and the timing varies depending on the priority level.

We prioritize commonly used streets, bus routes and roads that provide access to hospitals and schools. When the snow stops, operators work as quickly and safely to have all the roads cleared by 24 hours and major roads and bus routes within 12 hours.

Click [here](#) to find when you can expect to have your street/sidewalk cleared once the snow event has stopped.

If your street or sidewalk has not been cleared by the indicated time in each chart, please ContactUs@311.halifax.ca or call 311 so crews can be dispatched to address the issue. If

an emergency vehicle needs to access a street, staff dispatch a plow immediately to that street.

Residents should note that in snowfalls greater than 30 centimeters or in blizzard conditions, more time may be needed to complete clearing. The same exception may apply when there are rapidly changing weather conditions. Crews will continue working until all streets and sidewalks are clear and safe.

For more information on service standards, winter parking, and winter's impacts across our municipality, visit: halifax.ca/snow or [keep up to date on clearing operations and municipal service updates](#) via [@hfxgov on Twitter](#).

Here is the link for information on those roads taken care of by the province:

<https://novascotia.ca/tran/winter/losmap.asp>

COUNCILLOR IONA STODDARD



COUNCILLOR IONA STODDARD
 DISTRICT 12
 Timberlea - Beechville - Clayton Park - Wedgewood
 Cell: 902.240.7926
 Fax: 902.490.4122
 Iona.Stoddard@halifax.ca

Halifax Regional Municipality
 PO Box 1749
 Halifax, NS B3J 3A5

HALIFAX halifax.ca 311

I currently serve on the following boards and committees along with Regional Council and the Halifax & West Community Council:

- Appeals Standing Committee
- Transportation Standing Committee
- Community Design Advisory Committee
- Heritage Advisory Committee
- Community Monitoring Committee
- Women's Advisory Committee