

# COUNCILLOR PAM LOVELACE DISTRICT 13 NEWSLETTER

*Hammonds Plains - St. Margarets*



HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

FALL 2023

## DEAR RESIDENTS:



Fall is a lovely time a year. It's a time to give thanks, prepare for the long winter ahead, and reflect on the year as it passes. The summer of 2023 will not be forgotten. It was a very difficult time for our communities.

The wildfire in May and the floods in July demonstrated both our resilience as a community and the care and compassion we have for one another. I would like to take a moment to thank our employees from the Halifax Regional Municipality and the Emergency Management Division, Halifax Water, provincial Department of Public Works, Halifax Fire & Emergency, police services in RCMP and HRP, Search and Rescue, home builders, contractors, and everyone who is working diligently to help our community recover after these events. Fall also means back to school! To all students and staff, I wish you a safe and happy school year!

I would like to extend gratitude to the residents who attended, watched and participated in our community meeting on July 20. Thank you for sharing your feedback, concerns, and ideas. I will continue to advocate for improved community safety for District 13. I sincerely appreciate everyone who has reached out to share their stories, meet with me, and spend time providing valuable feedback.

It is a privilege to be your voice on Halifax Regional Council. Please do not hesitate to contact me with questions or concerns. Together we are working towards making our community a vibrant, safe and sustainable place to live, work and play.

## SIGN UP FOR DISTRICT 13 E-NEWS

I send frequent email updates to my email list. If you would like to keep up-to-date on what is happening in District 13, please email to subscribe: [pam.lovelace@halifax.ca](mailto:pam.lovelace@halifax.ca).

## CONTACT ME

**Email:** [Pam.Lovelace@halifax.ca](mailto:Pam.Lovelace@halifax.ca)

**Phone:** 902.225.4624

**Fax:** 902.490.4122

**Mailing address:** PO Box 1749, Halifax, NS B3J 3A5

## CONTACT MY OFFICE

Kate Richardson, Constituency Coordinator

**Email:** [richark@halifax.ca](mailto:richark@halifax.ca)

**Phone:** 902.490.4090

## CONNECT ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook - @[PamelaLovelaceHRM](https://www.facebook.com/PamelaLovelaceHRM)

Instagram - @[HRMLovelace](https://www.instagram.com/HRMLovelace)

## 311 - MUNICIPAL CONTACT CENTRE

Call 311 or visit [halifax.ca/311](https://halifax.ca/311) to report a municipal issue.

Hours are: Mon - Fri 8 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Sat - Sun 9 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

## OTHER USEFUL CONTACTS

Police/Fire Emergency: 911

Police (non-emergency): 902.490.5020

Fire (non-emergency): 902.490.5530

Halifax Water Emergency: 902.420.9287

Councillors' Support Office: 902.490.4050

NS Public Works: 844.696.7737

NS Department of Environment & Climate Change:  
1.877.936.8476

HALIFAX



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### REGIONAL PLAN ENGAGEMENT

The municipality is inviting residents to participate in the Regional Plan Review. The Regional Plan sets out a common vision and long-range, region-wide planning policies outlining where, when, and how future growth and development should take place. It was adopted in 2006 and is reviewed approximately every five years to ensure the plan still reflects the municipality's goals for growth and development.

At pop-ups, staff will be on site with a small table or booth. Here, you'll have an opportunity to meet municipal planners to talk about your ideas for our community. For more information, visit [shapeyourcityhalifax.ca/regional-plan](https://shapeyourcityhalifax.ca/regional-plan).

### WILDFIRE AFTER-ACTION REPORT

The municipality has released the municipal After Action Report on the May 28, 2023 wildfire in District 13. Here is the link to that report: [www.halifax.ca/media/83914](https://www.halifax.ca/media/83914). Please share widely with your neighbours. Community is invited to read the report and provide feedback to HRM by emailing [clerks@halifax.ca](mailto:clerks@halifax.ca).

The Province has not provided their After Action Report on the wildfire, nor have they offered a timing for release to the public.

### HAZARD, RISK, AND VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT (HRVA) ENGAGEMENT IN DISTRICT 13

The Halifax Regional Municipality's Emergency Management Division will be conducting Hazard, Risk and Vulnerability Assessments. These assessments are used as a tool that to understand community vulnerabilities and mitigate emergency risks and hazards. This program will be divided into four phases and will establish profiles and recommendations for action for each municipal district.

If you are interested in contributing to the Hazard Risk and Vulnerability assessment for District 13 you can do so by attending a public meeting or filling out a survey at [shapeyourcityhalifax.ca/hrva](https://shapeyourcityhalifax.ca/hrva).

Have your say in person at the following session in our District:

**Seabright Legion (11169 Peggys Cove Rd., Seabright)**  
**Wednesday, November 22 from 6 to 8 p.m.**

### RCMP TO APOLOGIZE FOR STREET CHECKS TO AFRICAN NOVA SCOTIANS AND PEOPLE OF AFRICAN DESCENT

Nova Scotia is steeped in remarkable Black history that spans many centuries. RCMP Nova Scotia is meeting with African Nova Scotian communities to gather feedback to inform the apology they will be making to African Nova Scotians and all people of African descent for the harm caused by the historical use of street checks and systemic anti-Black racism. These historic interactions have had extremely negative impacts on African Nova Scotians, their families, and communities. The apology and subsequent action plan will be drafted when the community consultations conclude in November. It is expected the RCMP Apology will be delivered in 2024.

### DEVELOPMENTS IN DISTRICT 13

Wondering what is being developed in your area? You can go to [halifax.ca](https://halifax.ca) and type "Active Planning Applications" in the search box to obtain details on specific developments, such as the ones listed below for District 13:

- Case 24399 - 445 Winslow Drive, Upper Tantallon
- PLANAPP 2023-01201 - 41 Big Lake Drive, Big Lake
- Queensland - there is no development proposal for Conrads Road

### ROADWAY INFRASTRUCTURE REPAIR

The flooding event of July 2023 resulted in 1,500 work orders being generated for staff. Twenty per cent of these work orders have been completed as of August 25. All municipal roadways have been reopened except for portions of six roads which remain a top priority.

The 1,350 outstanding work orders impact over 400 roads and two bridges, with the majority being in Bedford, Sackville, Hammonds Plains, and Fall River.

Many of the road work orders pertain to repairing road shoulders, so residents who are driving and walking on these roads are urged to exercise caution, as many shoulders are soft or damaged. Staff will be working through these work orders in a similar manner to how they deal with snow clearing, with main roads being the priority, followed by secondary roads.

I ask that residents continue to report any damage by contacting 311. This helps staff ensure concerns are logged and tracked.

*(continued on next page)*



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Best efforts are being made to complete repairs prior to the winter to facilitate safe winter operations and maintenance. Repairs are being undertaken while capital projects are ongoing. Increased construction and traffic impacts are expected to accommodate this work. Please consider adding extra time to your route and plan ahead. Thank you for your patience.

### CLAIMS WITH HALIFAX WATER

Residents that wish to submit a claim with Halifax Water about damage can call 902-420-9287, Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., or email [customercare@halifaxwater.ca](mailto:customercare@halifaxwater.ca). They will be asked to provide an email address when submitting their information via telephone. Residents should be sure to include their civic address, full name, and contact number when submitting via email. A Halifax Water representative will be in touch to confirm their request has been received within 72 business hours. You can also visit their website for additional information at [halifaxwater.ca/homeowner-responsibility](https://halifaxwater.ca/homeowner-responsibility).

### OPEN AIR BURNING SEASON

As of October 16, (weather permitting) and whether the NS Forest Weather Index (FWI) [novascotia.ca/burnsafe](https://novascotia.ca/burnsafe) is at a low or moderate reading, the time of day burning restrictions will be lifted. For more information about winter open-air burning and safe burning practices, visit [halifax.ca/fire-police/fire/burning-permits/burning-rules-regulations](https://halifax.ca/fire-police/fire/burning-permits/burning-rules-regulations). Please be careful whenever burning!

### FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AFTER A FLOOD

Nova Scotians can now apply for disaster financial assistance related to damage from the severe flooding through the Province of Nova Scotia. The Province's Disaster Financial Assistance Program is designed to help Nova Scotians, municipalities, small businesses and not-for-profit organizations get back on their feet after a major storm or natural disaster. Not all disasters are covered by private insurance, and this program helps those whose losses are not insurable. Types of losses can include flood damage and damage to uninsurable items like household appliances, such as washers, dryers and furnaces.

The program covers up to \$200,000 in uninsurable losses per household, small business and not-for-profit organization.

Applications are available at:

- Online at [beta.novascotia.ca/disaster-financial-assistance-storm-flooding](https://beta.novascotia.ca/disaster-financial-assistance-storm-flooding)
- Access Nova Scotia centres
- MLA offices

Residents are asked to continue to assess damage, keep all receipts, take pictures and video and work with their insurance companies. This program will be accepting applications up until October 31, 2023.

### TAX RELIEF FOR NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS PROGRAM

The municipality is pleased to announce that the Tax Relief for Non-Profit Organizations Program is now accepting applications for 2024-2025. Organizations applying for acceptance into the program (or the addition of another property) must submit a complete application on or before Thursday, November 30, 2023. The Tax Relief Program for Non-Profit Organizations application form is available online on the Program's website at [halifax.ca/business/doing-business-halifax/tax-relief-non-profit-organizations](https://halifax.ca/business/doing-business-halifax/tax-relief-non-profit-organizations) or by emailing [non-profittax@halifax.ca](mailto:non-profittax@halifax.ca).

### TAX RIGHT-OF-WAY CHARGE UPDATE

The Halifax Regional Municipality is advising residents that the Right-of-Way (ROW) charge (formerly referred to as the "Stormwater Right-of-Way charge") has moved from the Halifax Water bill to the municipal tax bill.

The ROW charge will change from a flat \$40 annual fee that has previously appeared on residents' Halifax Water bill (as either a one-time lump sum or quarterly charge) to a new amount (based on the assessed value of the property) that will appear on their next municipal property tax bill in fall 2023.

The ROW charge is for the maintenance of municipal roads, bridges, trees, lighting, signage and guard rails, as well as for the management of stormwater that comes from the public street right-of-way into Halifax Water's stormwater system. *(continued on next page)*





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Stormwater is the water from rain, melted snow and ice that runs off roofs, parking lots, driveways and other hard surfaces. The municipality is responsible for paying Halifax Water for the impact on their stormwater system as ordered by the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board.

The municipality's ROW charge applies to all properties within the municipal stormwater service boundary. In 2022, the province downloaded 300 km of provincial roads to HRM, expanding the service boundary. Public roads within the municipal stormwater service boundary are owned by the municipality and the services are provided by both the municipality and Halifax Water. For roads outside of the service boundary, services are provided by the Province of Nova Scotia.

Halifax Water will continue to collect a separate Stormwater (Site-Related Flow) charge, which can be found at [halifaxwater.ca/rates](https://halifaxwater.ca/rates). For more information on this change, please visit [halifax.ca/row](https://halifax.ca/row) or contact 311.



*Celebrating Westwood Strong Day with Mayor Mike Savage and Minister Steve Craig*



*Pam joined Mairi Rankin and Wendy MacIsaac for The Schoolhouse Cèilidh in Peggy's Cove*

### IN THE COMMUNITY



*National Day for Truth and Reconciliation flag raising at City Hall*



*Unicorn Theatre's Hike for Epilepsy*



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.

# HALIFAX