

COUNCILLOR PAM LOVELACE DISTRICT 13 NEWSLETTER

Hammonds Plains - St. Margarets



HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

SUMMER 2023

DEAR RESIDENTS:



Happy July and Happy Canada Day! I hope you took time to relax and celebrate the holiday and to enjoy KANA'TA: Canada Day 2023 celebrations. Developed in close collaboration with Indigenous communities, KANA'TA: Canada Day

2023 offers programming that honours the traditions of the Mi'kmaw Nation and celebrates pan-Indigenous communities that call the municipality home.

The week of the wildfire and the weeks and months following this tragic event will be a time that many of us will never forget. A natural disaster that changed our community forever. To the 151 families who lost their homes in the fire and those who suffered damages to their properties, I want you to know that we as a community are here for you and will continue to support you as we work to recover together.

Thank you to all the firefighters from Halifax Fire and Emergency, the Department of Natural Resources and Renewables, and the Department of National Defence who spent days both on the ground and in the air fighting the wildfire. In addition, I want to acknowledge HRM's Emergency Management Office, Joint Emergency Management volunteers, Red Cross, and countless volunteers who worked tirelessly coordinating the municipal response to the wildfire and continue to ensure a safe environment during this recovery period.

CONTACT ME

Email: 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

Phone: 902.490.4090

CONNECT ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook - @PamelaLovelaceHRM

Instagram - @HRMLovelace

311 - MUNICIPAL CONTACT CENTRE

Call 311 or visit 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



DISTRICT 13 NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2023

EMERGENCY RECOVERY COMMUNITY MEETING

On Thursday, July 20, I will be hosting a community meeting at the St Margaret's Centre located at 12 Westwood Blvd in Upper Tantallon. The meeting will take place from 6 to 8 p.m. Representatives from HRM's Emergency Management Office, HRM's Community Safety Office, Halifax Fire, the Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources and Renewables, and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police will be in attendance to provide information. I hope you can attend this meeting.

COMMUNITY SUPPORTS

Recovery from a natural disaster does not happen overnight. If you were impacted by the wildfire and in need of financial or social supports because of this incident, please call the provincial 2-1-1 hotline or visit their website ns.211.ca/.

The Canadian Mental Health Association has a wide list of mental health resources for anyone who needs them. The Canadian Mental Health Association can be contacted toll free 24/7 at 1-833-456-4566. Kids Help Phone offers free phone counselling for children, their toll free number operates 24/7 at 1-800-668-6868. For members of the First Nations community you can contact First Nations and Inuit Hope for Wellness Help Line at 1-855-242-3310. Bell Let's Talk is an additional resource that provides a list of other mental health organizations that provide resources.

A Community Hub has been set up at the St Margaret's Centre at 12 Westwood Blvd. The Community Hub will be operating Monday to Friday 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. for the next several months. This Community Hub is where impacted residents can access information regarding the supports that are currently available, meet with support agency representatives, and communicate with our HRM Community Liaisons about your current needs. The goal of this Hub is to help guide residents through the first phase of fire recovery.

COMMUNITY CONNECTOR ROADS AND EGRESS

Since being elected in 2020, I have been an advocate for community safety. In January 2021, I moved to develop a plan to both budget and build community connector roads. This report is expected to come to Council this year. I requested staff adequately budget and plan for

population growth and future community development including establishing new fire and emergency services assets such as land, fire stations, access to water sources, dry hydrants, egress roads, and more.

Building back exits for 30-year-old subdivisions in District 13 is complicated. These roads and subdivisions were originally approved by the Department of Transportation. There are multiple landowners involved including various departments of the Province of Nova Scotia, Nova Scotia Power, and private landowners. The roads may be provincial or municipally owned. This complexity is causing delays to build these much-needed exits.

On June 7, 2023, I specifically requested that staff investigate developing egress for Westwood Hills subdivision in Upper Tantallon. I will continue to press the province to allow egress through crownland. The egress built in June for Haliburton and Highland Park were possible because HRM owns the land.

UNITED WAY FUNDING

The United Way Halifax is committed to being there for residents during the recovery and social network restoration process as a result of the wildfire. The Wildfire Recover Appeal will disburse funds in stages to ensure that funding matches the evolving needs of the community.

Phase One funding is supporting needs such as food and grocery store gift cards, special cleaning supplies, transportation costs and the cost of living expenses due to displacement.

- Emmanuel Baptist Church – Upper Hammonds Plains
- Freedom Kitchen and Closet (Knox Church) – Lower Sackville
- Lucasville Baptist Church – Lucasville
- Lucasville Community Association – Lucasville
- St. Margaret's Bay Toy Library – Tantallon
- St. Nicholas Anglican Church – Upper Tantallon
- The Unicorn Theatre Society – youth focused, Seabright
- Upper Hammonds Plains Community Centre – Upper Hammonds Plains
- Wallace Lucas Community Centre – Lucasville



DISTRICT 13 NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2023

TREES

The Municipality recommends having any mature trees on your property assessed by either a Professional Arborist or Professional Forester. While the canopy may have or may not have been impacted, if the fire damaged the roots, the tree may still be compromised and could be a current or near future risk. In terms of tree disposal, consider both risk tolerance and esthetic desire. From an ecological perspective, there is value in retaining the remaining organic material for the future productivity and health of the site.

Envirosoil Limited, 48 Quarrystone Drive, Rocky Lake Quarry, Bedford will accept ash, ash-impacted soil, ash-impacted debris, burnt trees and charred wood. To arrange this service please visit the Envirosoil offices at 927 Rocky Lake Drive. For more information, visit r3environmentalsystems.com/.

Please note Halifax C&D does not accept ash, ash-impacted soil, ash-impacted debris, burnt trees and charred wood. For information on managing remaining live vegetation, or reinstating lost vegetation, refer to Fire Smart practices at firesmartcanada.ca/about-firesmart/contact-us/firesmart-nova-scotia/.

WATER SAMPLING

The province of Nova Scotia recommends that well water testing occurs every six months for bacteria and every two years for chemical contaminants. For more information about Well Water testing and how to interpret your results can be found at novascotia.ca/well-water-testing or call the provincial 2-1-1 hotline.

NO BURNING AFTER MIDNIGHT

In the Halifax Regional Municipality, open air burning is not allowed between the hours of midnight and 2 p.m. The time of day may be further restricted by provincial or municipal bans. Check for bans every time before you burn. They are posted 2 p.m. every day at novascotia.ca/burnsafe/. For more information on Municipal Burning Rules & Regulations visit halifax.ca/fire.

BBQ SAFETY

To stay King or Queen of the grill you must include some basic "fire safety" ingredients in your barbecue recipes.

- Whether fueled by charcoal or gas, barbecues are approved for outdoor use only – they emit carbon monoxide.

- Never barbecue in your garage, tent or other enclosed space.
- Read and follow all manufacturers instructions.
- Place your barbecue on a solid surface so it cannot tip over and be sure it is a safe distance from anything that can burn - we've all seen the results of a barbecue that was used too close to vinyl siding. Remember too that since barbecues do get very hot you need to keep children and pets away as well.
- Be cautious of wind strength and direction before using your barbecue and always stay with your barbecue when it's being used.

For specific information related to grilling safely with a gas or charcoal barbecue this summer, visit halifax.ca/fire-police/fire/fire-prevention-safety/barbecue-safety.

NATIONAL INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S DAY

June was National Indigenous History Month, a time to honour the history, heritage and diversity of First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples. HRM and members of Regional Council are committed to strengthening our relationship with Indigenous communities and honouring the significant contributions of Indigenous peoples. National Indigenous Peoples Day is recognized annually on June 21, the summer solstice, a historically significant date.

The 10th Annual North American Indigenous Games will be coming to Kijipuktuk (Halifax) from July 15 to 23, 2023. I encourage you to come out and cheer on our local athletes who are competing. A full schedule of events can be found on their website by visiting naig2023.com.



Councillor Lovelace and Councillor Cuttell along with the Athelihai Inuit Dance Group and The Honourable Arthur J. LeBlanc, Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia attending the raising of the Mi'kmaq Grand Council flag at City Hall.



DISTRICT 13 NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2023

SPECIAL WASTE DEPOT

Residents looking to dispose of household special waste, not acceptable for curbside collection, can bring their materials to the following upcoming mobile household special waste depot event:

When: Saturday, August 19

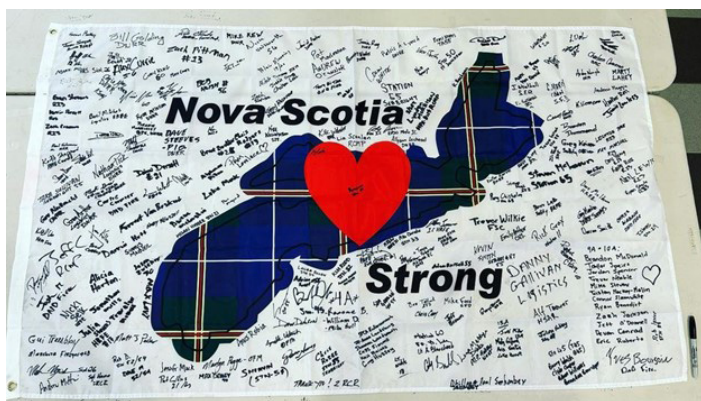
Where: St Margaret's Bay Elementary (24 Ridgewood Drive, Head of St Margarets Bay)

BLUE GREEN ALGAE SAFETY

Blue-green algae, or cyanobacteria, are naturally found in freshwater environments like lakes, ponds, rivers, and streams. They thrive in warm water and can be harmful to people and fatal for pets. Algae blooms can look like fine grass clippings in the water, spilled paint, pea soup or sometimes like a thick scum on the surface. Algae mats can look like clumps of vegetation, and can appear black, brown, or dark green in the water. On the shoreline they may appear brown or grey.

Watch for advisories by visiting halifax.ca/beaches and following @hfxgov on Twitter. Report suspected algae contamination by calling 1-877-9ENVIRO (1-877-936-8476) and 311.

Learn more at halifax.ca/cyano.



Nova Scotia Strong Flag Signed by the incredible team working at the Incident Command Centre located at St. Margaret's Centre in Upper Tantallon.



Councillor Lovelace with Firefighters from HRM Station 50 Hammonds Plains



Councillor Lovelace and Firefighters from HRM Station 65 in Upper Tantallon



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