



**COUNCILLOR LISA BLACKBURN**  
 DISTRICT 14 ONLINE NEWS  
 MIDDLE/UPPER SACKVILLE - BEAVER BANK - LUCASVILLE

**WELCOME SEPTEMBER!**



Happy September! I hope that you all had a lovely summer and spent time some quality time with friends and family.

Fall for many of us means back to school and back to routine. To all students commencing or returning to school, best wishes to you as you work toward completing your education. Stay safe and have fun!

Keep reading for more information about how to prepare for hurricane season, the latest HalifACT update, and mobile household special waste depot information.

If you have questions regarding a municipal program or service, please contact me at 902.579.7164 or by email at [Lisa.Blackburn@halifax.ca](mailto:Lisa.Blackburn@halifax.ca).

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## COUNCILLOR LISA BLACKBURN

MIDDLE/UPPER SACKVILLE - BEAVER BANK - LUCASVILLE

### SEPTEMBER MEETING DATES

#### Regional Council:

Tuesday, September 12<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m.

Tuesday, September 26<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m.

#### North West Community Council

Monday September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 7 p.m.

Monday September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 7 p.m.

Meeting dates/times are subject to change, please confirm on our municipal [website](#).

### NORTH WEST COMMUNITY COUNCIL

The North West Community Council did not meet in the month of August. The next meeting will be held on Monday September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 7 p.m.

To review upcoming or past agendas, click [here](#).

### BE PREPARED FOR HURRICANE SEASON

Hurricane season's arrival emphasizes the vital importance of preparedness. In coastal areas like ours, readiness is imperative due to the potential for catastrophic winds, rain, and devastation. Preparedness can save lives, protect property, and ensure community resilience.

#### Make a Plan

Every household needs an emergency plan. It will help you and your family know what to do in case of an emergency. Your family may not be together when an emergency occurs. Plan how to meet or how to contact one another, and

discuss what you would do in different situations.

When making your home emergency plan, you will need to think about the following:

- Safe exits from home and neighbourhood
- Meeting places to reunite with family or roommates
- Designated person to pick up children should you be unavailable
- Contact persons close-by and out-of-town
- Special health needs
- Place for your pet to stay
- Risks in your region
- Location of your fire extinguisher, water valve, electrical box, gas valve and floor drain

*\*Photocopy your plan and keep it in your car and/ or at work.*

#### Protecting Property

Securing your property against hurricane damage is essential. This may include reinforcing windows and doors, clearing gutters and drains, and ensuring that the roof is in good condition. For those living in areas prone to flooding, elevating electrical systems and sealing basement walls can help mitigate water damage.

#### Staying Informed

Monitoring weather updates is vital. Our government agencies provide timely information on storm tracking, severity, and projected paths. Pay attention to evacuation orders and warnings issued by local authorities. Having a battery-operated weather radio on hand can ensure you receive information even if the power goes out. Sign up for [HRM emergency alerts](#) check our [website](#) frequently, and follow @hfxgov on twitter for municipal updates and information during a storm.



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### Review and Practice

Periodically review your emergency plan and supplies to ensure they remain up to date and functional. Practicing evacuation procedures with your family can minimize confusion and anxiety during a crisis.

In hurricane-prone regions, preparedness for the impending storm season is not an option; it's a responsibility. By understanding the risks, creating an emergency plan, safeguarding property, staying informed, engaging with your community, and regularly reviewing your preparations, you can increase your resilience in the face of these powerful natural forces. Remember, the best defense against a hurricane is a well-prepared and informed community working together to weather the storm.

### 72-hour Emergency Pack

Have a 72-hour pack ready, in case you need to leave your home. Visit this [website](#) to learn more or visit our website [here](#).



## HALIFACT COMMUNITY UPDATE- VOLUME 3



Wondering about the work we're doing to fight climate change? Curious or concerned about how we're adapting to extreme weather and the risk of wildfires? Find out more about how we're coordinating climate action throughout the

municipality by reading the latest issue of the HalifACT community update.

HalifACT is one of the most ambitious climate action movements in Canada. We're committed to keeping residents informed of the ways we're leading, collaborating and supporting the climate movement in the Halifax region. Here are some highlights from Issue 3 of the community update:

- Foreword by Shannon Miedema on the unprecedented wildfires.
- Municipal tree planting to restore urban forest.
- Electric vehicle test drives to encourage the transition.
- CEO Climate Action Charter to foster corporate social responsibility.
- The opening of the Halifax Common Aquatic Facility.
- The beginning of the ambitious Green Shores development.
- And much more!

Head to [halifax.ca/halifactupdate](http://halifax.ca/halifactupdate) for more context on the climate movement here in the Halifax region.



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### FINANCIAL SUPPORT AFTER THE 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](#)
- 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.

Applications for this program will be accepted up until October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023.

### MAKING A CLAIM 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.

### MOBILE HSW 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 (HSW) depot events:

**When:** Saturday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>

**Where:** Harold T Barrett Jr High  
826 Beaverbank Rd, Beaverbank

The mobile drop-off depot will be in operation from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and will take place rain or shine.

For more information on Halifax's solid waste program including updates on future depot events, please visit our [website](#), download the [Halifax Recycles app](#) or call 311.



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### HAZARD RISK AND VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT

The Halifax Regional Municipality’s Emergency Management Division will be conducting Hazard, Risk and Vulnerability Assessments. These assessments are used as a tool 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 14 you can do so in one of two ways. The first is to participate in the Public Engagement session being held on Wednesday October 11<sup>th</sup> from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Sackville Heights Community Centre. The second is to complete the online survey which will be made available after the engagement session is complete. For more information, visit our [website](#).

### GENDER EQUITY WEEK

Gender Equity Week (September 18<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>) is an opportunity to celebrate the valuable contributions of women and gender-diverse communities while reaffirming our commitment to advancing gender equality within our organization and region.

Gender equality means that all gender identities have equal rights and opportunities.

Conversely, gender inequality, rooted in colonialism and patriarchy, connects to other forms of oppression. It encompasses issues like violence against women and the transgender community, gender stereotypes dictating how boys and girls "should behave," and limited career choices based on gender.

While progress has been made, including achieving gender parity on Regional Council in the last municipal election, there is still work to do.



**Contribute to the Hazard, Risk and Vulnerability Assessment.**

You're invited to attend a public engagement session in your district and contribute to our online survey.

To keep improving how we **make decisions, understand community vulnerabilities, and mitigate emergency risks and hazards**, the municipality's Emergency Management Division is conducting a Hazard, Risk and Vulnerability Assessment (HRVA) starting in spring 2023.



Gender Equity Week



For complete details, visit [shapeyourcityhalifax.ca/hrva](http://shapeyourcityhalifax.ca/hrva)



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### IMPROVING HOUSING PERMIT PROCESSES IN HALIFAX

Regional Council and the development industry have expressed a shared interest in transparent reporting regarding the time it takes to get a permit to build or renovate. Council was presented Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) that measure how long it takes to get development approvals and permits in HRM. This is crucial given the ongoing housing crisis in the Nova Scotia.

The [staff report](#) and [presentation](#) presented to Council on August 22<sup>nd</sup> outlines the current processing timelines for various application approval streams, sets targets, discusses recent improvements, and identifies obstacles, resource needs, and legislative changes required to consistently meet these targets. Staff will report on these KPIs twice a year, with the next report coming in January.

The staff report and accompanying presentation includes information on processing times and targets for applications related to development and construction, subdivision applications, and planning applications, which encompass rezonings, land use by-law amendments, and development agreements. It does not cover timelines for comprehensive policy work directed by Council, such as the Regional Plan Review and policy initiatives for planned growth areas.

A detailed overview of the current and target processing times, Subdivision Application KPI's, and Planning Application KPI's can be found on tables on page 3 and page 4 of this [report](#).

While permit and development application processing faced significant challenges in 2021, considerable improvements have occurred. Municipal staff will continue to monitor and adjust staffing, processes, and tools to reduce wait times and achieve target timeframes for most applications.

Transparency in approval wait times through the website and upcoming online dashboard will set service delivery expectations for citizens and elected officials.

The bi-annual KPI report, along with the annual budget and business plan, will enable Regional Council to regularly review service delivery metrics and provide necessary support, direction, and transparency for service delivery expectations for citizens and elected officials.





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### PARTICIPATE IN THE REGIONAL PLAN REVIEW

We're inviting residents to provide feedback on the Draft Regional Plan, both [online](#) and through [in-person](#) public engagement events. The public engagement period will run until October 27, 2023.

Feedback received will be summarized in a *What We Heard* report and used to refine key regional policy directions.

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. The Regional Plan was adopted in 2006 and is reviewed approximately every five years to ensure it is reflective of the municipality's goals for growth and development.

The Draft Regional Plan is responding to the Halifax region's population growth and need for housing, the need to act on climate and equity, as well as updating policies to reflect Priority Plans.

Residents may submit feedback at any time on the Draft Regional Plan, including any requests for site-specific amendments.

For a full schedule of public engagement events, visit our [Shape Your City](#) page. For any questions, contact 902.943.3248 or [regionalplan@halifax.ca](mailto:regionalplan@halifax.ca).

### IN THE COMMUNITY

#### SACKVILLE SENIORS FUNDRAISER

50s 60s 70s MUSIC DANCE/FUN NIGHT BY

#### THE FLASHBACKS



EVERYONE 19 YRS AND OLDER WELCOME / Doors open at 7:30

CASH BAR / 50/50 TICKET

Saturday **SEPTEMBER 23<sup>RD</sup>** 8:00 PM - 11:00 PM

LOCATION: **SACKVILLE LEGION**

45 SACKVILLE CROSS ROAD, LR. SACKVILLE

**TICKETS \$10 - ON SALE NOW - SSAC OFFICE**

For Information / Tickets: 902-864-5591 / 902-865-5719

In support of the Sackville Seniors Advisory Council

**LUCAS FAMILY REUNION**  
MERCHADISE BINGO FUNDRAISER

CANTEEN	10 REGULAR GAMES
50/50	\$10
\$2 ea or 3/\$5	3 SPECIALS
	\$1 PER CARD



Saturday, Sept 9th, 2023  
2-4:30  
Lucasville Community Center  
596 Lucasville Rd  
Come out and help support fundraising efforts for the Lucas Family Reunion happening July 2024



**BRING YOUR DAUBERS!!**  
CASH ONLY  
WHILE QUANTITIES LAST



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### PROVINCIAL & FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVES



#### Provincial Representatives in District 14:

- **MLA Brad Johns** Sackville – Uniacke  
Unit 103, 1710 Sackville Drive  
Middle Sackville, NS B4E 3A9.  
Phone: 902-865-6467  
[mlabradjohns@gmail.com](mailto:mlabradjohns@gmail.com)
- **MLA Steve Craig** Sackville – Cobequid  
Unit 104, 445 Sackville Drive  
Lower Sackville, NS B4C 2S1.  
Phone: 902-864-6271  
Fax: 902-864-0483  
[Steve.Craig@novascotia.ca](mailto:Steve.Craig@novascotia.ca)
- **MLA Brian Wong** Waverley – Fall River  
– Beaver Bank  
Suite 101, 1265 Fall River Road  
Fall River, NS B2T 1E6.  
Phone: 902-576-3411  
Fax: 902-576-3413  
[brianwongmla@gmail.com](mailto:brianwongmla@gmail.com)
- **MLA Ben Jessome** Hammonds Plains –  
Lucasville  
2120 Hammonds Plains Road, Unit 3  
Hammonds Plains, NS B4B 1P3  
Phone: 902-404-9900  
Fax: 902-404-8415  
[jessomeben@gmail.com](mailto:jessomeben@gmail.com)

#### Federal Representatives in District 14:

- **MP Darrell Samson** Sackville – Preston  
- Chezzetcook  
2900 Highway 2  
Suite 2nd Floor  
Fall River, Nova Scotia B2T 1W4  
Telephone: 902-861-2311  
Fax: 902-861-4620
- **MP Lena Metlege Diab** Halifax West  
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Suite 222  
Bedford, Nova Scotia B4A 1E5  
Telephone: 902-426-2217  
Fax: 902-426-8339





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## HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY'S LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

COUNCILLOR LISA BLACKBURN  
District 14  
Middle/Upper Sackville - Beaver Bank - Lucasville



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**HALIFAX**

### Land Acknowledgement

The Halifax Regional Municipality is located in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and traditional lands of the Mi'kmaq people. The municipality acknowledges the Peace and Friendship Treaties signed in this Territory and recognizes that we are all Treaty People.

I currently serve on the following Boards and Committees along with Halifax Regional Council and the North West Community Council:

- Appeals Standing Committee
- Board of Police Commissioners
- Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee
- Executive Standing Committee
- Grants Committee
- Women's Advisory Committee
- North West Planning Advisory Committee

Halifax is committed to strengthening its relationship with Indigenous communities and honouring the significant contributions of Indigenous peoples. The municipality has demonstrated this is by formalizing the official Land Acknowledgement:

*“The Halifax Regional Municipality is located in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and traditional lands of the Mi'kmaq people. The municipality acknowledges the Peace and Friendship Treaties signed in this Territory and recognizes that we are all Treaty People.”*