



WELCOME OCTOBER !



October is a busy month for celebrations of the fall season including Thanksgiving. I hope you take time to reflect with family and friends on all the things that we have to be grateful for this year.

October is also a time to acknowledge and celebrate Mi'kmaq History Month. I hope you are able to participate in one of the many events taking place across the municipality and show your support to our indigenous communities by wearing orange.

I also want to remind you to drive safe and practice extra caution on Halloween when all of our trick or treaters will be out and about.

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.

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COUNCILLOR LISA BLACKBURN

MIDDLE/UPPER SACKVILLE - BEAVER BANK - LUCASVILLE

SEPTEMBER MEETING DATES

Regional Council:

Tuesday, October 3rd at 1 p.m.

Tuesday, October 17th at 10 a.m.

Tuesday, October 31st at 10 a.m. (if required)

North West Community Council

Monday October 16th 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 met on September 25th at 7 p.m.

During the meeting a staff report was presented regarding [Case 23904: Amendments to the Timber Trails Mobile Home Park Development Agreement, 1036 Lucasville Road, Lucasville](#)

Upon review of the staff report the North West Community Council moved to give notice of motion to consider the proposed amendments to the existing development agreement to expand the area of the development agreement to include the sewage treatment facility for the park, and schedule a public hearing.

This Motion was put forward and passed.

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

CELEBRATING MI'KMAQ HISTORY MONTH

October is Mi'kmaq History Month, a time to commemorate the rich history, proud culture and important contributions of the Mi'kmaq. In 1993, Premier John Savage and Mi'kmaq Grand Chief Ben Sylliboy declared October as the official month to recognize and celebrate Mi'kmaq culture and heritage.

Treaty Day, October 1, officially kicks-off a month of celebrations. This year's theme is *Mi'kmaq Traditional Games & Sports*. Below are some ways you can recognize Treaty Day and Mi'kmaq History Month:

- Throughout the month of October, show your support of Indigenous communities by wearing orange.
- Check out the [Mi'kmaq History Month website](#) to view resources, including the 2023 Mi'kmaq History Month poster and learn more about this year's theme, Mi'kmaq Traditional Games & Sports.
- Halifax Public Libraries has a number of [events and resources](#) dedicated to Mi'kmaq History Month, and the [Mi'kmaq History & Culture virtual portal](#) to explore.





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RIGHT-OF-WAY CHARGE UPDATE

The Halifax Regional Municipality is advising residents that the Right-of-Way (ROW) 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 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. Stormwater is the water from rain, melted snow and ice that runs off from roofs, parking lots, driveways and other hard surfaces. The municipality is responsible for paying Halifax Water for the impact on their stormwater system. The municipality's ROW charge applies to all properties within the [municipal stormwater service boundary](#). 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. For more information on this change, please visit: halifax.ca/row or contact [311](tel:311).

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 11th 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](#).

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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.



For complete details, visit
shapeyourcityhalifax.ca/hrva



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SEEKING APPLICATIONS FOR THE YOUTH WORX PROGRAM

The Halifax Regional Municipality is seeking applicants for the Youth WORX Program.

Youth WORX offers 24 weeks of paid job and life skill building experience for youth ages 16 to 24 and who are not employed or attending school full-time.

Participants will gain hands-on work experience operating the [Youth WORX Café](#) in the Sackville Sports Stadium, as well as delivering and repairing green carts on behalf of the municipality. Further, participants will have the opportunity to attend job readiness workshops to improve their employability skills.

For more information, residents can visit [our website](#), call 902-490-5589, text 902-579-5446, email youthworx@halifax.ca, or message [@hfxnextgen](#) on Instagram.



REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN FOR THE 2023 VOLUNTEER CONFERENCE

The Halifax Regional Municipality is advising residents that registration has opened for the municipality's [2023 Volunteer Conference](#). This year's conference will take place on Friday, November 17th from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Delta Hotels by Marriott Dartmouth (240 Brownlow Avenue, Dartmouth).

The conference is an opportunity for volunteers to connect, celebrate, and learn relevant skills. Delegates representing a variety of organizations and causes will participate in two training workshops and networking activities and enjoy a keynote speech and seated meal. This year's workshops will cover topics such as: treasurer 101, inclusion, meeting changing community needs, self-care, funding, being an active neighbor, cultural awareness, working together in partnerships, project management, and building better teams.

Registration will remain open until Sunday, November 12th. For more information, including a complete schedule, visit [our website](#).





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INTERSECTION SAFETY

Intersection related collisions account for the majority of fatal and injury collisions in HRM. We all have a shared responsibility in keeping our roads safe:



- Follow traffic regulations
- Be mindful of other road users
- Avoid distractions
- Exercise caution
- Remain watchful of changing road and weather conditions

Drivers

- Make sure there is enough space between your vehicle and the vehicle ahead of you.
- As you approach an intersection, look left and right to scan your surroundings.
- Come to a full stop at stop signs and red lights.
- When approaching an amber or yellow light you must stop if you can do so safely.
- If the light is green, scan left and right before proceeding through the intersection or entering the intersection to make a left or right turn.
- Do shoulder checks, mirror checks and use signals before turning. When turning right do a double shoulder check for cyclists.
- Yield to pedestrians at intersections. Crosswalks exist on all legs of an intersection, whether marked or unmarked. Turning vehicles at signalized intersections must yield to pedestrians crossing on the walk signal. If the intersection doesn't have traffic lights, drivers must yield to pedestrians waiting to cross or when they're already in a

crosswalk. Drivers must wait until pedestrians are completely across the road before proceeding.

Pedestrians

- Look both ways, try to make eye contact with motorists and walk across only when it is safe to do so.
- When available always take advantage of marked crosswalks.
- It's the law to use flashing light at crosswalks where available. Make sure to press the button where it is available.
- Consider wearing bright colours or reflective clothing when walking in the evening, at dusk or dawn and when the weather conditions make visibility poor.

Cyclists

- Use hand signals to let other road users know your intentions at intersections.
- If you decide to cross the street using pedestrian signals, get off your bicycle and walk it across the street.
- Approach intersections with caution and look for vehicles slowing down to turn right.
- Consider wearing or applying bright colours and applying additional reflective materials or to your bicycle.
- You are legally required to have a light at the front of your bike (or e-scooter) and a red reflector or red light at the back.
- Always wear your certified helmet.

Let's all work together to make intersections safer for everyone.



COUNCILLOR LISA BLACKBURN

MIDDLE/UPPER SACKVILLE - BEAVER BANK - LUCASVILLE

RCMP Road Safety Stats

August 2023, District 14

Middle-Upper Sackville, Beaverbank - Lucasville

300 Calls for Service in August 2023 - Down 15.5% over same period in 2022

15 Summary Offence Tickets (vs. 24 in August 2022)
2 aggressive driving, 3 speeding, 10 other MVA (e.g., no insurance or registration, invalid inspection sticker, etc.)

56 Proactive Assignments (vs. 91 in August 2022)
12 Cell Phone/Impaired/Seatbelt/Speeding Checkpoints/
Radar Enforcement

39 Traffic Stops (vs. 65 in August 2022)

1 Impaired Driving Charges (same as August 2022)
0 Impaired Driving Suspension (vs. 2 in August 2022)

9 Motor Vehicle Accidents (vs. 8 in August 2022)
• one of these accidents resulted in injuries

0 Vehicle/Pedestrian/Cyclist Accidents (same as August 2022)

Please
Drive
Safely!

OCTOBER IS DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH

October is Disability Employment Awareness Month (DEAM) a time to recognize the contributions of people with disabilities in the workforce. Throughout the month, DEAM initiatives aim to bring awareness to barriers experienced by those living with disabilities and encourages workplaces across country to create inclusive and accessible environments for all.

Did you know that 30 per cent of Nova Scotians over the age of 15 identify as having a disability? This number is expected to grow as our population ages, making the municipality's commitment to improving accessibility and inclusion across our organization, in our programs and services and in the communities we serve increasingly important.

In support of this goal, and in alignment with the provincial accessibility framework, the

October 2023

municipality's Office of Diversity & Inclusion/ANSAIO developed an [Accessibility Strategy](#) that was unanimously approved by Regional Council in May 2021.

We all play a part in working to break down the barriers that exist for people living with disabilities.

Learn more at [here](#).

October is Disability Employment Awareness Month



WEEKLY GREEN CART COLLECTION

This is a friendly reminder that the Weekly Green Cart Collection ends on Friday, September 29th.

Green Carts will return to regular bi-weekly collection (every other week) starting Monday, October 2nd.

For more information, download the free Halifax Recycles app or visit [our website](#).

HALIFAX



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COUNCIL MEETING - SEPTEMBER 12TH, 2023

During the Regional Council Meeting on September 12th, 2023, Max Chauvin, Director of Housing Homelessness, gave a presentation to Council about the latest updates to the Municipal Homelessness Strategy.

While the province is responsible to lead addressing homelessness in all of Nova Scotia's municipalities, the Halifax Regional Municipality also has an important role to play.

Council was asked to vote on six different motions created as result of the presentation. These motions will be used to help direct the CAO and staff about the priorities of Council when addressing Municipal Homelessness.

1. direct the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) to lease private property, if possible, as locations for persons experiencing homelessness to shelter.
2. endorse an exception to the June 14, 2022, criteria prohibiting the use of active sports fields for homeless encampments for use of the Halifax Common for the purpose of sheltering.
3. direct the CAO to establish additional encampments, temporary housing, or tiny home locations on all types of municipality-owned properties. Such sites may include rights of way, parking lots, and surplus lands.
4. direct the CAO to write to the province requesting their immediate plans to create deeply affordable housing options in HRM, including the leasing of private property for persons experiencing homelessness and

request the province provide on-site wrap-around services for homeless encampments that have over ten people.

5. direct the CAO to explore the options of the non-park property types outlined in the staff report dated September 4, 2023, as well as campgrounds, and outdoor facilities, as locations for unhoused persons who are sheltering in a vehicle.

6. direct the CAO provide a staff report to explore the feasibility of purchasing and installing pre-fabricated structures, similar to the Sprung structures in Toronto, to provide rapid response emergency housing in HRM including funding opportunities for installation and operation, that include other orders of government and the private sector.

To listen to my questions and discussion points during Council regarding the presentation on our Municipal Homelessness Strategy please click [here](#). My portion runs from 3:59:08 until 4:03:06. Housing insecurity and homelessness continues to be an issue in our region, and we are committed to applying resources to support efforts aimed at helping to address homelessness.



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HALIFAX



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IN THE COMMUNITY



At a recent North West Community Council meeting in Sackville. Did you know Public Participation is a part of every Community Council meeting? Join us!



The Regional Plan Review held a community consultation session which I attended to hear the feedback!

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
- **MLA Steve Craig** Sackville – Cobequid
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Lower Sackville, NS B4C 2S1.
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- **MLA Brian Wong** Waverley – Fall River
– Beaver Bank
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Fall River, NS B2T 1E6.
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- **MLA Ben Jessome** Hammonds Plains –
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MIDDLE/UPPER SACKVILLE - BEAVER BANK - LUCASVILLE



- 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

Federal Representatives in District 14:

- **MP Darrell Samson** Sackville – Preston
- Chezzetcook
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Suite 2nd Floor
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District 14
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HALIFAX

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

October 2023

HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY'S LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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.

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."