

METRO-X ROUTE #370 BEGINS

Starting Monday, November 18th, the new Metro-X Rural Express Bus Route #370 will begin its service from the Metro Transit Park & Ride Terminal in Porters Lake on Inspiration Drive by Hwy #107 Exit #20. Because this is a commuter express service, the schedule will focus on getting commuters downtown during the morning rush hour, and back to Porters Lake during the evening rush hour, and there will also be one mid-day and one evening trip. The rates will be the same for all Metro-X services, \$3.50 a trip, or \$110 for a monthly pass. Presently there are only stops at the Dartmouth Bridge Terminal and Scotia Square in Halifax. The time schedule is :

INBOUND			OUTBOUND		
PORT	DART	HFX	HFX	DART	PORT
5:38 AM	6:10 AM	6:25 AM			
5:53 AM	6:25 AM	6:40 AM			
6:25 AM	7:00 AM	7:15 AM			
6:55 AM	7:30 AM	7:45 AM			
7:25 AM	8:00 AM	8:15 AM			
7:55 AM	8:30 AM	8:45 AM			
2:38 PM	3:10 PM	3:25 AM	1:45 PM	2:00 PM	2:30 PM
4:08 PM	4:40 PM	4:55 PM	3:15 PM	3:30 PM	4:00 PM
			3:45 PM	4:00 PM	4:35 PM
			4:15 PM	4:30 PM	5:05 PM
			4:45 PM	5:00 PM	5:35 PM
			5:15 pm	5:30 PM	6:05 PM
			5:45 PM	6:00 PM	6:35 PM
			6:20 PM	6:35 PM	7:10 PM

For more information about this service; go to:
www.halifax.ca/MetroTransit/MetroExpress.html

I have also had discussions with Metro Transit authorities in an attempt to integrate and connect the local community transit #410 service in with the #370 Express. It makes logical sense to have this transit service integration whereby commuters can catch the local transit in their respective communities and still link up and access the Metro-X Service. Hopefully progress on this front can be achieved in the near future.

NEW DISTRICT OFFICE & COORDINATOR

In an attempt to better serve the new and larger district area, I will be opening up an office in the Musquodoboit Harbour Railway Museum at #7895 Highway #7. My Office Mailing address will be PO Box 2 - Musquodoboit Harbour, HRM, NS , B0J 2L0. Phone number will be: 889-3553. Also HRM has hired a part-time Coordinator to help me with the district workload and to extend the service availability of the Councillor's Support Office. The tentative office hours right now are set as: Wednesday, Thursday: 9 AM to 4 PM and Friday: 9 AM to 1:30 PM. Please welcome Molly Trussler as my new Coordinator.

GOOD LUCK TO THE ELECTED MLA's

Now that the 2013 Provincial Election is over and with the advent of a new government, I wish to congratulate the three elected MLA's that serve our municipal district. Good luck to Lloyd Hines, Kevin Murphy and Keith Colwell. I look forward to working with them to ensure the concerns of the district are heard and acted upon. Collaboration and cooperation can work.

NOT-FOR-PROFIT TAX EXEMPTIONS

HRM can help some non-profit organizations reduce their level of property tax through the Tax Exemption for Non-Profit Organizations Program. It is available only to actively registered non-profit and charitable organizations located within HRM. Application deadline is November 30th. For details go to: www.halifax.ca/boardscom/bccgrants/TaxExemptionsforNon-ProfitOrganizations.html. A reminder that it is mandatory for all previously registered entities already enrolled in this program to re-apply annually in order to maintain their tax exemption status.

13th HRM VOLUNTEER CONFERENCE

One way that HRM recognizes and supports its local volunteers is through the Annual HRM Volunteer Conference. This year marks the 13th year for the conference which provides valuable networking and learning opportunities for local volunteers. Volunteering contributes towards public safety, fosters good neighbours and builds great neighbourhoods. It is estimated that approximately 200,000 volunteers throughout the communities of HRM contribute approximately 318,000 hours of service per year. The conference will be held on Friday & Saturday November 22nd & 23rd at the Dartmouth Harbourview Holiday Inn. For info, go to: <http://halifax.ca/volunteerservices/VolunteerConference.html>.

HRM VOLUNTEER AWARDS 2014

Each year the municipality, the Mayor and Regional Council recognize the extraordinary contributions of individuals and groups who volunteer their time and skills to provide services and programs in HRM communities. Individuals or groups can be nominated by someone in their community by filling out the HRM Nomination Form. Please read the nomination criteria (on the form) carefully before filling it out. The 2014 Award Nomination Forms are now available at: <http://halifax.ca/volunteerservices/awards/index.html>. There are two options for submitting a nominee: either down-load a PDF form to print and complete, mail or drop it off at locations found on the form or make a submission online. Nominate worthy individuals in the adult, youth) or community group categories. If you would like a hard copy of the nomination application mailed to you, please contact Phil Hammond at 490-6577 or hammonp@halifax.ca. Deadline for all nominations is Friday, December 13th, 2013

PRESTON AREA WATERSHED STUDY

HRM has engaged the consulting firm AECOM to deliver a series of community meetings in the greater Preston area for a local watershed study. The initial meeting was held on July 18th with HRM Staff and Steering Committee members, community leaders and interested residents. The purpose of this initial meeting was to provide a brief study overview on the technical aspects of the study, including proposed water quality sampling locations. There will be another public meeting to provide a project update on Monday, December 9th at 7 PM at the East Preston Recreation Centre. For more details, contact Cameron Deacoff – HRM Environmental Performance Officer at 490-1926 or 476-0363 or by e-mail at cameron.deacoff@halifax.ca or check out this web-site link : www.halifax.ca/planhrm/index.html or at <http://halifax.ca/planhrm/#PAWmtg> or the PlanHRM Facebook page for more information.

LAKE CHARLOTTE LAUNCH UPDATE

It was our hope to have the new public boat launch site in Lake Charlotte opened this summer. However, due to some federal Dept. of Fisheries & Oceans (DFO) regulatory issues about fish habitat mitigation and possible compensation, an environment permit has not yet been approved to allow HRM to put in the concrete slipway. Now that the fish migratory season has begun, any construction work in the waterways must halt until late Spring. In the meantime, we will be making some design modifications to the overall size of the boat launch in order to meet DFO specifications and hopefully get their approval to secure a permit.

SENIORS SNOW REMOVAL PROGRAM

There is a snow removal referral program available to seniors (65 years of age or older) and for persons with disabilities in HRM. The program is NOT available to landlords. You must reside in a single dwelling home that you own or rent. Its mandate is to provide a resource to clients for the removal of snow for safe access. The program is limited to those households with a combined total income not exceeding \$30,000. To make more enquiries about this program, please call the HRM Contact Centre at 311 or the YMCA at 1-902-457-0938. Or go to this web-site for further details and information: www.halifax.ca/services/seniorssnow.html. Registration deadline is December 1st or sooner depending upon the demand for applications. Program applicants will be placed on a list based on a first come – first serve basis. Apply ASAP.

ESMCHB DEVELOPMENT FUNDING

The Eastern Shore Musquodoboit Community Health Board (ESMCHB) has funding available to support local groups and organizations to improve the health of our communities. The purpose of the Community Development Fund is to encourage community groups to address health issues, establish partnerships with other organizations, create solutions, and build healthier communities. If you have an idea or would like an application form, please call the office at 889-4118, send e-mail to the ESMCHB Co-ordinator at Monique.mullins-roberts@cdha.nshealth.ca or go on-line to: www.cdha.nshealth.ca/eastern-shore-musquodoboit-community-health-board/documents. Application deadline is Friday, December 13th.

PROPER DISPOSAL OF ASHES

HRM Fire & Emergency Service (HRMF&ES) wants to remind all citizens that numerous fires occur every year due to the improper disposal of ashes from fuel burning appliances such as wood stoves, fire places, pellet stoves and wood furnaces. Never discard ashes into your green bin, other plastic containers, or cardboard boxes. Ashes should be placed in a metal can with a tight fitting lid and stored outside the home, away from structures and other combustibles. Ashes can smoulder for several days and re-ignite. For more helpful information about fireplaces, wood stoves and fire safety throughout the year, contact the HRMF&ES Public Education Division at 490-4017 or go to: www.halifax.ca/FirePrevention/WatchYourAshes.html. Keep warm and safe this season.

VETERANS' WEEK OBSERVATIONS

Each year, from November 5th - 11th, hundreds of commemorative ceremonies and events will take place across our country to commemorate Veterans' Week. These are opportunities for all Canadians to recognize the contribution our Veterans have made and to honour those who made the ultimate sacrifice on behalf of Canada. There are so many ways to remember and honour our Veterans: wear a poppy; attend a local Remembrance Day ceremony; thank a Veteran by sending a postcard for peace; talk to a friend or relative who served with the Canadian Armed Forces in Afghanistan or in other areas of conflict; view the "Heroes Remember" videos and listen to Veterans talk about their experiences. However you choose to remember, be sure to share it with everyone you know. Together, it is our duty to pass on our gratitude and keep the legacy and memories of our Canadian Veterans alive. Our deep military history and way of life recognizes the need for us to remember the sacrifices made by those who fought for our liberty, peace, security and freedom. This Veterans' Week, take time to remember them so at the 11th hour, on the 11th day, of the 11th month take time out and observe a two minute moment of silence. Thank you !!!



Lest We Forget!



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