



COUNCILLOR BECKY KENT

DISTRICT 3 ONLINE NEWS

DARTMOUTH SOUTH - EASTERN PASSAGE

MESSAGE FROM BECKY

Hello District 3 Residents,

Spring is almost here! The sun is setting later each day and I am certainly looking forward to the warmer and brighter days ahead.

I would like to remind folks that daylight savings is quickly approaching. Don't forget to set your clocks forward by one hour at 2:00 a.m. on Sunday March 10.

We continue to press on with budget discussions, and I encourage you all to participate in this process via public participation which is offered at the start of every budget session. The budget schedule can be found [here](#).

March Break will be here soon, and I hope that all of our families will make some time to make memories that will fill their spirits and re-energize their batteries.

As always, I encourage you to reach out to me with any of your municipal questions or concerns.

Warmly,

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.





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MARCH IS FRANCOPHONIE MONTH

March is Francophonie Month, celebrating the French language and diverse Francophone cultures through cultural activities held worldwide.

March 20 has been observed worldwide as International Francophonie Day since 1988. The date commemorates the establishment of the Agence de Coopération Culturelle et Technique, the precursor to the [International Organization of La Francophonie](#), the organization representing countries and regions where French is the first or customary language. Today, with 300 million speakers worldwide, French is the fifth most spoken language in the world; La Francophonie has 88 member states and governments.

Visit the [Calendar of the local francophone network Hého](#) to learn more about various events celebrating the rich and diverse Francophone cultures happening in Halifax this March 2024.

MARS EST LE MOIS DE LA FRANCOPHONIE

Mars est le mois de la Francophonie, qui célèbre la langue française et les diverses cultures francophones à travers des activités culturelles organisées dans le monde entier.

Depuis 1988, le 20 mars est célébré dans le monde entier comme la Journée internationale de la Francophonie. Cette date commémore la création de l'Agence de coopération culturelle et technique, précurseur de [l'Organisation internationale de la Francophonie](#), l'organisation qui représente les pays et les régions où le français est la langue première ou coutumière. Aujourd'hui, avec 300 millions de locuteurs dans le monde, le français est la cinquième langue la plus parlée au monde ; la Francophonie compte 88 États et gouvernements membres.

Visitez [le calendrier du réseau francophone d'Halifax Hého](#) pour en savoir plus sur les différents événements célébrant la richesse et la diversité des cultures francophones qui auront lieu à Halifax en mars 2024.

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PARTICIPATE IN THE 2024/25 BUDGET

The municipality's [2024/25 Budget and Business Planning](#) process will continue until April 2024. Over the winter, municipal business units presented plans to Regional Council with their intentions for the upcoming fiscal year and outlining the required budgets to achieve their goals. During this process, Regional Council asked questions, discussed, debated, and considered each department's proposed priorities and budget. This can result in revisions to budget plans along the way.

The 2024/25 Budget and Business Plan approval date is scheduled for April 23, 2024, where Regional Council will finalize what next year's budget.

HAVE YOUR SAY ABOUT THE BUDGET

During every budget meeting, members of the public also have an opportunity to share their views on any aspect of the proposed municipal budget. You can speak directly to me as your Regional Councillor about budget priorities. During each meeting, time will also be set aside for the public to provide insight and comments. If you wish to make a presentation before HRM Council about the municipal budget, then please contact the Municipal Clerks Office at clerks@halifax.ca or call 902-490-4210. Written submissions are also welcomed.



Eastern Passage Cow Bay Firefighters Association Open House



Cole Harbour Parks and Trails Association 25th Anniversary



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INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

March 8 is International Women's Day, a time to celebrate the incredible accomplishments of women, girls, gender diverse and non-binary people, while raising awareness that gender inequality still exists in institutional biases, stereotypes and discrimination.

This year, the Government of Canada's theme for International Women's Day (IWD) 2024 is **Invest in women: Accelerate progress**. It's a call to action and a reminder that gender equality is one of the most effective ways to build healthier, more prosperous, and more inclusive communities.

We all have a role to play in building a future where everyone can reach their full potential. Learn more about upcoming events in celebration of International Women's Day at Halifax.ca as details become finalized. Click [here](#) for more information.



Mayor Savage and I

STEP UP TO SPRING

Join our Neighbourhood & Volunteer Services team for their Step up to Leadership course this spring! The course was developed by volunteers, for volunteers and covers a wide range of topics to help participants develop leadership skills and build strong communities.

Learn more about the spring 2024 sessions on our [website](#).





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RAMADAN – MARCH 10 TO APRIL 8

The evening of March 10 will mark the first night of Ramadan, a month-long sacred observance for Muslims around the world and here at home. Ramadan is a month of fasting, reflection and prayer and charity. Throughout this time, observants will undertake a spiritual journey of prayer and fasting every day from dawn until sunset, ending the evening of April 8.



The celebration of Eid al-Fitr, also referred to as Eid and translates to “Holiday of Breaking to Fast,” is one of the most important days of the Islamic year and will start on April 9 and continue for three days. To all those celebrating, Ramadan Kareem!

HFXGO INSTALLATIONS UNDERWAY!

Installation of HFXGO validators is underway on [#hfxtransit](#) buses! Some validators are already installed but will not be active until installation is complete on the entire fleet. Please continue to show your HFXGO ticket or pass to your Operator when boarding.



SOCIAL VALUE CATERING

The municipality is seeking applications from catering businesses who meet Social Value Guidelines for inclusion on a Social Value Catering List.

We are looking for businesses who are owned, operated by:

- women
- African Nova Scotians / People of African Descent
- Indigenous peoples
- veterans
- recent immigrants
- people with disabilities
- social enterprises

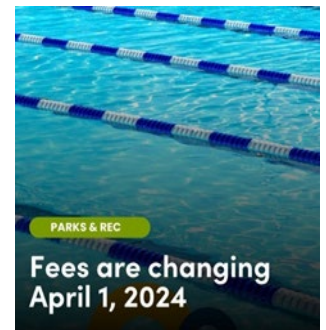
Learn more and apply [here](#).

REC FEES CHANGING

Parks and Recreation fees are changing on April 1, 2024.

In 2022, changes to the Parks & Recreation fee structure for recreation programs, services, rentals, drop-ins and membership fees were announced. In accordance with the five-year fee structure changes, Parks & Recreation fees, including membership fees, will be increasing effective April 1, 2024.

Please see the full list of changes [here](#).





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SHORE ROAD EROSION MITIGATION PROJECT – PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION



Thank you to over 75 people who took the time to come out to the Shore Road Green Shorelines Project meeting with staff. It was very informative about high level plans for the project. Your thoughtful insight and input to this initiative is very much appreciated.

The area from Norman's Lane to Oceanlea Drive has been impacted by waves and ocean storm surge for many years. This location fits perfectly in the Green Shorelines program, which offers new innovative approaches to the reinstatement of shoreline, along with underwater mitigation for wave strength. This area is also HRM property so the ability to move this forward quickly is more straight forward. There will be a future meeting with more details.

Many residents have concerns about the area on Shore Road near Noonan's Provincial Beach, at the end of Caldwell at Shore Road. This area has been impacted by wave and storm surge and is very near the HRM road infrastructure and can impact residents across the road from the beach when beach rock is washed up on shore, sometimes quite violently. HRM staff are aware of this very real concern. This area of Shore Road is a different shoreline and wave impact circumstance and dynamic, which means it does not fit this particular program. Staff are reviewing and in communication with the province about what can be done. Because the road is HRM infrastructure, and the beach where the ocean wave impact is occurring is provincial property, the province will need to lead any shoreline protection initiatives. I encourage you to use your voice with our Provincial MLA and government to encourage collaboration with HRM to address this area of concern.



Councillor Mancini and I



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2024/25 COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM

2024-2025

COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM

APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN

This program provides cash grants to registered non-profit organizations and charities.

HALIFAX

Halifax Regional Municipality's Community Grants Program has begun accepting applications from registered non-profits and charities located within Halifax Regional Municipality. The application deadline is April 1, 2024. Application forms and program guidebooks are available from:

- Our [website](#)
- Visiting one of our [Customer Service Centres](#)
- Alderney Gate, 40 Alderney Drive, - Dartmouth, 1st floor
- Musquodoboit Harbour Strip Mall, Corner of Hwy #7 & East Petpeswick Road
- Bayers Road, 7071 Bayers Road, 2nd floor
- [Contacting 311](#)
- E-mail - nonprofitgrants@halifax.ca

Organizations considering an application to the program are encouraged to review the guidebook.

For further information, please email nonprofitgrants@halifax.ca or call 902.497.0479

EASTERN PASSAGE COMMONS SKATE PARK UPDATE

The project team is currently working on detailed design drawings and construction specifications for the Eastern Passage Commons Skate Park. Construction is anticipated to start in May 2024 and take 12-16 weeks to complete. The design and construction are being completed by New Line Skateparks; the company has more than 20 years of experience designing and building concrete skate parks. The design and construction of the project was approved in the 2023-24 Capital Budget. Below are two images of the design rendering for the skate park. Please note, there will be minor adjustments made through detailed design.



HALIFAX



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TRANSIT OPERATOR AND WORKER APPRECIATION DAY

On March 18, we are celebrating Transit Operator and Worker Appreciation Day! It's a day to recognize the commitments to keeping our communities moving and appreciate our heroes behind the wheel. Thank you to all of those who help us reach our destinations safely – from our operators and workers to supervisors and team behind the scenes, your professionalism and dedication to our residents and public transit system does not go unnoticed!



UPCOMING REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETINGS

There are three Regional Council meetings scheduled for March. **Regional Council meetings are held on Tuesdays:**

- March 5
- March 19
- March 26

I look forward to participating in these meetings, and I hope you can join us – in person or by tuning in on YouTube! Check out the full schedule of upcoming meetings – including committees [here](#).

Meeting agendas (including the specific start time of 10:00 a.m. or 1:00 p.m.) and a link to watch the video are generally available by the Friday prior to the meeting. Reports on the items that councillors vote on are available and are linked throughout the meeting agenda.

COMMUNITY COUNCIL SCHEDULE AND AGENDA

The Harbour East – Marine Drive Community Council normally meets on the first Thursday of each month, at 6:00 p.m. in the HEMDCC Meeting Space, Main Floor Alderney Gate, 60 Alderney Drive, Dartmouth. Meeting dates, time and location are subject to change. You can find agendas, report, and minutes [online](#).

The HEMDCC webcast will be live on HRM's [YouTube channel](#) and [agenda postings](#). Stay tuned for the video link to be shared closer to the next HEMDCC meeting, scheduled for March 7.

District 3 | Dartmouth South - Eastern Passage COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SESSION

Join Councillor Becky Kent

to discuss community matters related to Bell Lake Parkland

Woodlawn Public Library

Tuesday, May 14 from 6 to 8 p.m.

To register, please contact Emily at 902-490-7177 or smithem@halifax.ca



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PLEASE DRIVE SLOWLY SIGNS AVAILABLE

If you are interested in a slow down sign for your lawn/personal property, please email me. These signs are made of plastic and come with the lawn stakes for installation. Please be informed that the District 3 "Please Drive Slowly" signs are NOT a traffic calming measure, and they have no authority to direct or slow down traffic or make children safer on the streets.



CONTACT

Should you wish to discuss municipal services or programs, please contact me at becky.kent@halifax.ca or 902-478-5368. For routine municipal matters, please call our Citizen Contact Centre at 311. To reach my office, please call Emily Simonov at 902-490-7177.

To sign up for my monthly e-newsletter, please e-mail Emily at smithem@halifax.ca.

For information on all things municipal, please visit our [website](#).



PARENTING SUPPORT MINI-SERIES

APRIL 23, 2024
1:15 - 2:15 PM
AT HORIZON
RECREATION CENTER



A Monthly Drop In Connecting Parents and Community Resources Geared Towards Supporting Youth & Families.

THIS MONTH'S GUEST SPEAKER:



MacPhee Centre for Creative Learning

THE MACPHEE CENTRE FOR CREATIVE LEARNING EMPOWERS YOUTH BETWEEN THE AGES OF 12-19 BY CONNECTING PASSION WITH PURPOSE THROUGH THE ARTS.

Hosted by your Eastern Passage SchoolsPlus team Samantha Galvin & Lynne McKenzie
(902)430-2387 samantha.galvin@hrce.ca · (902)225-0101 lmckenzie@hrce.ca



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