



COUNCILLOR BECKY KENT

DISTRICT 3 ONLINE NEWS

DARTMOUTH SOUTH - EASTERN PASSAGE

MESSAGE FROM BECKY

Hello District 3 Residents,

Summer is just around the corner! The school year will soon be coming to a close and summer vacation begins. I hope you all take time this summer to rest, recharge and create memories with family, friends and loved ones.

Thank you to all who attend my senior tea socials in May. They were a great success, and it was an absolute pleasure to meet you all and enjoy a cup of tea with you.

I would like to send a big congratulations to all students who are graduating this year. I wish you all the best in your future endeavors as you embark on this new chapter in your life.

I would also like to take this opportunity to wish a very happy Father's Day to all the wonderful Dad's out there! We appreciate all that you do.

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.





JUNE IS NATIONAL INDIGENOUS HISTORY MONTH

June is National Indigenous History Month in Canada, a time to recognize the rich history, heritage, resilience and diversity of First Nations, Inuit and Métis people. It's a time to honour the stories, achievements and resilience of Indigenous Peoples, who have lived on this land since time immemorial and whose presence continues to impact the evolving Canada.

The House of Commons designated June as National Aboriginal History Month in 2009. The name was changed to National Indigenous History Month in 2017.

Each week throughout the month of June, the Federal government will be highlighting specific aspects of Indigenous history, cultures and perspectives. Explore [learning resources](#) on each theme:

- June 1 to 9: Environment, traditional knowledge and territory
- June 10 to 16: Children and youth
- June 17 to 23: Languages, cultures and arts
- June 24 to 30: Women, girls and 2SLGBTQI+ people

Please check our [website](#) for more information.



HRM CITIZENSHIP AWARDS

Every spring, Halifax Regional Municipality hosts the Citizenship Awards ceremony to recognize grade nine students throughout the municipality who exemplify the qualities of leadership in, and service to, their school and community, while maintaining commendable academic performance.

This year we were pleased to honor 39 students with the Citizenship Award. A ceremony and awards presentation took place on May 7 as part of a special presentation at Halifax Regional Council.

Congratulations to the 2024 District 3 Citizenship Award recipient Charley Lane of Eric Graves Memorial Junior High School.





PORTLAND STREET – COLE HARBOUR ROAD FUNCTIONAL PLANNING STUDY UPDATE

The Halifax Regional Municipality is planning on making incremental changes to Portland Street and Cole Harbour Road from Alderney Drive /Prince Albert Road to Bissett Road. A study has been undertaken to develop a future vision for this street that seeks to:

- Provide high quality transportation options;
- Improve people-moving capacity;
- Build complete streets and with an emphasis on the pedestrian realm and placemaking;
- Improve road safety and areas of previous collisions.

This includes considerations like bus rapid transit implementation, wider sidewalks and boulevards, continuous off-road cycling facilities, and intersection improvements to help improve the comfort, convenience, and safety of all road users with a complete streets lens.

Portland Street and Cole Harbour Road are an important gateway and link between communities of Dartmouth and Cole Harbour with the rest of the Municipality. It is estimated that upwards of 40,000 people travel along this corridor every day. More details about the project can be found [here](#).

Figure 1: Map of Study Area



The second phase of the Portland Street – Cole Harbour Road Functional Planning Study has been initiated with a revised scope and deliverables towards project completion by summer 2024.

Upcoming Public Engagement Opportunities

Phase Two of public engagement will continue in June. Have your say by participating in one of our public open house events or filling out the online survey. More details are below:

Public Open House #1

Thursday, June 13 from 6 to 8 p.m.
Micmac Aquatic Club (192 Prince Albert Road)

Public Open House #2

Monday, June 17 from 6 to 8 p.m.
Cole Harbour Place (51 Forest Hills Parkway)

Open houses will be drop-in style with display boards and breakout tables for themed discussion. There will be opportunity to review two design scenarios and ask questions of HRM staff. A major focus is on evaluation of trade offs. Which scenario best meets project objectives and matches your vision for the future of these streets?

Online Survey

Will be open June 10 through 28. Hosted on this [webpage](#).

Survey material will reflect what was presented at the Open House sessions including questions on the concept scenarios, trade offs, and future vision for the street.



BELL LAKE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT – WHAT WE HEARD

Thank you to everyone who attended and shared their thoughts and feedback at the Bell Lake Community Engagement session on May 14. It was a pleasure to hear from you all on what you envision as the future of this community asset. We overwhelmingly heard that most residents do not want to see any development take place in this area. Concerns were raised about potential fires, encampments and disturbing the wildlife. We also heard about the dangers this could pose to the ecosystem of the lake as it is a spring fed lake.

During the meeting, several people expressed interest in being part of a Bell Lake Stewardship Committee as a subcommittee of the Woodlawn Residents Association. Work has begun on striking this committee. If you did not sign up but would like to be part of the committee, please contact my Coordinator Emily at smithem@halifax.ca.

There are no plans for further park development at the lake at this time.



The Mayor and I at the Dartmouth South Senior Tea Social

HORNES ROAD BRIDGE UPDATE

As part of the municipality's [2024/25 Capital Plan](#) the Hornes Road bridge will undergo replacement. This work is necessary to ensure sufficient hydraulic capacity is provided at the crossing. The new structure is a three-sided concrete frame, which includes a naturalized river bottom for improved fish passage. There will also be work on the water/wastewater services to accommodate the new bridge.

Starting late spring/early summer, contractors will begin pre-construction set-up which will result in the closure of Hornes Road. Construction is expected to continue until late fall. There will be no through traffic for vehicles or pedestrians on Hornes Road and transit will be rerouted throughout the construction period. Latest updates will be maintained on this [webpage](#) as they become available.



Eastern Passage Seniors Tea



WORLD REFUGEE DAY

World Refugee Day is an international day designated by the United Nations to honour refugees around the globe. It falls each year on June 20 and celebrates the strength and courage of people who have been forced to flee their home country to escape conflict or persecution.

World Refugee Day shines a light on the rights, needs and dreams of refugees, helping to mobilize political will and resources so refugees can not only survive but also thrive. While it is important to protect and improve the lives of refugees every single day, international days like World Refugee Day help to focus global attention on the plight of those fleeing conflict or persecution.

View the United Nations Refugee Agency resource, [Are Refugees Good for Canada: A Look at Canadian Refugee Integration](#), to learn more about how refugees integrate and contribute to Canadian society and the economy.

Look out for more municipal events and announcements coming soon to acknowledge this day.



UPCOMING TRAFFIC CALMING PROJECTS

The Halifax Regional Municipality has provided more details about the traffic calming projects on Oceanview School Road, Aubrey Terrace and Oceanlea Drive. A review of these streets has determined that speed tables are the appropriate traffic calming measure for Aubrey Terrace and Oceanlea Drive while speed humps will be used for Oceanview School Road. Notices to the effected communities have been distributed with more information about any construction impacts. For more information on our traffic calming program, visit our [website](#).



Example of a speed table



Example of speed hump



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ACCELERATING ON HOUSING

Regional Council has approved amendments to the Regional Municipal Planning Strategy and applicable municipal and land use by-laws to support more options for housing across the region and advance their application under the Housing Accelerator Fund.

The Halifax region has experienced unprecedented growth, largely due to an increase in immigration, and is expected to reach a population of one million residents by 2050. These changes will help respond to our growing population and the urgent need for housing among our residents.

Changes would enable a minimum of four units per lot in all residential zones within urban areas. Changes would also allow smaller, faster building, with a focus on more middle housing and more housing near transit.

For more information, read the [staff report](#).



Eastern Passage Seniors Tea

BURN BAN

Check before you burn!

March 15 through October 15 is wildfire risk season. Help reduce wildfire risk by following all considerations within the municipality's Open Air Burning By-Law and reviewing provincial restrictions.

For more information, click [here](#).



NOVA MULTIFEST 2024
Biggest Multicultural Festival in Nova Scotia!
JULY 19TH-21ST
Alderney Landing in Downtown Dartmouth!

Presented By: **TD** **NOVA MULTIFEST**

FREE ADMISSION
WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE

Follow: #multifestns



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

Halifax Regional Council has approved a revised Community Engagement Strategy that will provide a framework for employees for the effective delivery of community engagement efforts.

The landscape in the municipality has changed since the previous Community Engagement Strategy was developed in 2008. The Halifax region has experienced unprecedented growth over the last 16 years, largely due to an increase in immigration, and is expected to reach a population of one million residents by 2050. A new approach to community engagement will allow the municipality to leverage technology and new methods to engage with residents to ensure programs and services meet the needs of our vibrant and diverse communities.

For more information, read the [staff report](#).



NATAL DAY PARADE – 2024 REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN



The Halifax Regional Municipality is advising residents that registration has opened for participants in the annual Natal Day parade. The 127th Pepsi Natal Day Parade will take place on Monday, August 5 at 10 a.m. This annual event attracts hundreds of residents and is a key piece of the municipality's annual Natal Day programming.

For more information, visit our [website](#).

FUNDING FOR MORE AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Regional Council has directed the Chief Administration Officer to allocate \$6.1 million from the Housing Accelerator Fund to support affordable housing projects in the regional centre. Council has also directed the Chief Administrative Officer for additional funding for project grants in the suburban area of the municipality.

Grants would support renovations or repairs to shared housing and apartments rented at below market value and grants to support new construction. A grant would support the purchase of an existing building to be used for affordable housing.

This funding will allow the municipality to support the current and urgent need for affordable housing for its residents.

For more information, read the [motion](#).



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FREE ELECTRIC VEHICLE TEST DRIVE EVENT

The Halifax Regional Municipality has partnered with Next Ride and the Clean Foundation to offer a number of free electric vehicle (EV) test drive events to residents across the municipality, including in rural, urban and suburban areas. These events will take place from June to August.

During each test drive event, residents can expect a free test drive in an electric vehicle, information on electric vehicles, electric vehicle rebates, and the Municipal Electric Vehicle Strategy.

Many of the events will take place next to the locations of the municipality's EV chargers – a project currently underway to install public EV chargers across the region. Both the EV test drive events and EV charger installation are in support of the [Municipal Electric Vehicle Strategy](#) and efforts to support the decarbonization of transportation.

Visit our [website](#) for the event schedule. Registration for each event will open approximately two weeks before the event date. Residents are encouraged to [register online](#) to guarantee your test drive. Limited walk-in spots may be available.



Join us for an electric vehicle test drive!

July 18 | 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Horizon Recreation Centre

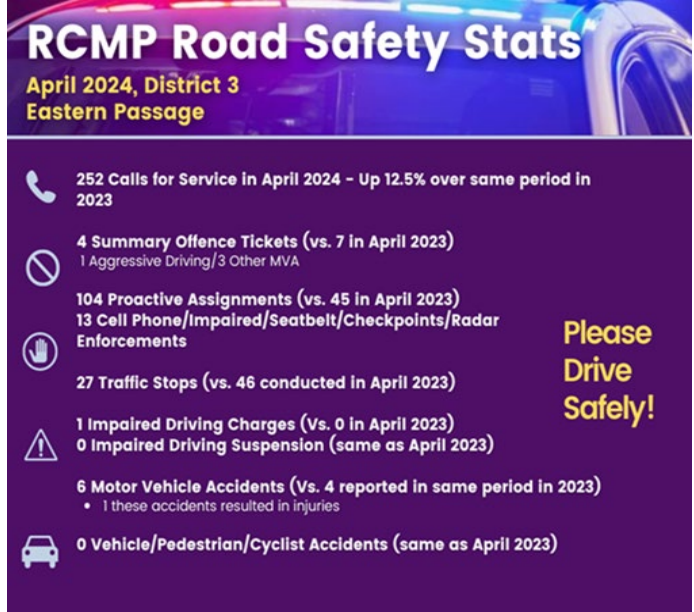
halifax.ca/EV

Next Ride | HalfACT | HALIFAX

TAX RELIEF FOR NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS PROGRAM REDESIGN

A redesign of the municipality's Tax Relief to Non-Profit Organizations Program was approved by Regional Council on April 23, 2024 and [Administrative Order 2024-001-ADM](#) is now in effect. Under the new program policy, the level of tax relief for non-profit organizations will increase or decrease for organizations already in the program and new applicants.

Communication packages have been sent by mail to current program participants and will have a [Request for Review form](#). For organizations whose property may qualify for tax relief under another Schedule, a request for review must be submitted on or before Tuesday, July 2, 2024. The program [webpage](#) has been updated with redesign information, new program FAQs and the fillable review forms for current program participants.



RCMP Road Safety Stats
April 2024, District 3 Eastern Passage

- 252 Calls for Service in April 2024 - Up 12.5% over same period in 2023
- 4 Summary Offence Tickets (vs. 7 in April 2023)
1 Aggressive Driving/3 Other MVA
- 104 Proactive Assignments (vs. 45 in April 2023)
13 Cell Phone/Impaired/Seatbelt/Checkpoints/Radar Enforcements
- 27 Traffic Stops (vs. 46 conducted in April 2023)
- 1 Impaired Driving Charges (Vs. 0 in April 2023)
0 Impaired Driving Suspension (same as April 2023)
- 6 Motor Vehicle Accidents (Vs. 4 reported in same period in 2023)
• 1 these accidents resulted in injuries
- 0 Vehicle/Pedestrian/Cyclist Accidents (same as April 2023)

Please Drive Safely!



UPCOMING REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETINGS

There is one more Regional Council meeting scheduled for June. **Regional Council meetings are held on Tuesdays:**

- June 18

I look forward to participating in this meeting, 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 Wednesday June 12.

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



HALIFAX

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](#).