



## COUNCILLOR BECKY KENT

DISTRICT 3 ONLINE NEWS

DARTMOUTH SOUTH - EASTERN PASSAGE

### MESSAGE FROM BECKY

Hello District 3 Residents,

Welcome October! I hope your fall is off to a wonderful start. I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very happy thanksgiving spent with loved ones. A friendly reminder to check in on family and friends who may be alone for thanksgiving. A kind gesture goes a long way.

Staff are currently in the process of conducting a review of the Regional Plan. I encourage you to attend the pop-up session for District 3 being held at the Woodlawn Library on October 5. More details can be found below.

There is lots going on this month that I would like to draw your attention to: registration for the 2023 Volunteer Conference, the Solid Waste Strategy Review, mobile special waste depots and more! Details can be found below in this newsletter.

A friendly reminder that bi-weekly green cart service resumes on October 2.

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.*





## 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 people. In 1993, Premier John Savage and Mi'kmaw Grand Chief Ben Sylliboy declared October as the official month to recognize and celebrate Mi'kmaw culture and heritage.

Treaty Day, October 1, officially kicks-off a month of celebrations. This year's theme is *Mi'kmaw Traditional Games & Sports*.

Below are some ways you can recognize Treaty Day and Mi'kmaq History Month. Be sure to check out their [website](#) for more information and a full list of events:

- In honour of Treaty Day, October 1, the Mi'kmaw Native Friendship Centre in partnership with the municipality will host a traditional salmon meal from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m., with a vendor market beginning at 11 a.m. More details are available [online](#).
- A church service at St. Mary's Cathedral Basilica on Spring Garden Road will take place on October 1 at 10:30 a.m.
- On October 2 at 10 a.m., attend the flag raising event at Grand Parade, which will include a reading of the Treaty Day Proclamation by Mayor Mike Savage.
- Throughout the month of October, show your support of Indigenous communities by wearing orange.

- Halifax Public Libraries have a number of [events and resources](#) dedicated to Mi'kmaq History Month, and the [Mi'kmaw History & Culture virtual portal](#) to explore.



## FISHERMAN'S COVE CROSSWALK

I am so pleased to share that the crosswalk at Fisherman's Cove is officially going in! This is something I have been striving for and began work on as soon as I was elected in 2020.

Thank you to everyone who championed it over the years. We did it together!





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### OCTOBER IS DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH (DEAM)

October is  
Disability  
Employment  
Awareness  
Month (DEAM) a  
time to  
recognize the  
contributions of

**October is  
Disability  
Employment  
Awareness  
Month**



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 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 [here](#).

### REGIONAL PLAN REVIEW POP-UP SESSION

The municipality is inviting residents to participate in the [Regional Plan Review](#) through several engagement opportunities taking place from now until the end of October 2023.

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. It was adopted in 2006 and is reviewed approximately every five years to ensure the plan still reflects the municipality's goals for growth and development. You can check out this short [video](#) for more information.

Have your say in the growth of our region at the following pop-up being held in our community:

**Woodlawn Library**  
**31 Eisener Boulevard, Dartmouth**  
**Thursday October 5**  
**12 to 4 p.m.**

Here, you'll have an opportunity to meet municipal planners to talk about your ideas for our community. Staff are also available to meet with interested community and stakeholder groups by request as well, by emailing [regionalplan@halifax.ca](mailto:regionalplan@halifax.ca) or calling 902-943-3248.

Residents who would like to attend an event and require accommodation for accessibility are asked to please contact Planning Staff by emailing [regionalplan@halifax.ca](mailto:regionalplan@halifax.ca) or calling 902-943-3248.



## EXTREME WEATHER EVENT DAMAGE

I want to start by sharing my concern for all of those in our community who have experienced the impacts of recent weather events. Damage to our homes and property can be difficult to grapple with and not knowing when the next weather event will strike, how severe it could be and knowing that these events are happening more frequently is difficult to say the least. If you haven't already sent me an email to help me to be aware of your damage, whether covered by insurance or not, please consider doing that. I am trying to get a better understanding of what areas of the community we should keep an eye on.



Hurricane Lee landed harshly on Shore Road. I shared the Green Shoreline project information in an earlier newsletter. The project will create a solution for the area from the Boardwalk at MacCormacks Beach to the first house across from Shoreview Dr. In the meantime, please continue to be very careful on all roadways near the coastlines. Another area of concern is Shore Road at Noonans Beach and across from the end of Caldwell Road. Staff have been active in communicating with the Province about mitigation for ocean wave resistance in those areas. The road impact is also a priority so I will keep you all posted on progress in those parts of Shore Road. Thanks to Road Operations staff for speedy clean up in all areas.



Swearing In Ceremony for Acting Police Chief Don MacLean



Councillor Trish Purdy and I at the Cole Harbour Parks and Trails Association 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



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### 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 17, 2023 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 12. For more information, including a complete schedule, visit [our website](#).



Supporting Abenaki Aquatic Club through District 3 Capital funds



I had a great time at the PEHRA Summer Tennis Tournament. Thank you for having me!



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### SOLID WASTE STRATEGY REVIEW

The Halifax Regional Municipality is conducting a review of its solid waste strategy. This review will focus on strategic initiatives that need to be implemented over the next five to seven years to achieve 2030 objectives and work toward meeting 2050 objectives, including:

- Maximizing reduction, reuse, and recycling of waste resources
- Maximizing environmental and fiscal sustainability of the waste program
- Fostering public stewardship and conservation
- Aligning with [HalifACT goals](#) (new)
- Contributing to the [2022 Environmental Goals and Climate Change Reduction Act](#) (new)

Until October 31, residents will be able to provide feedback on the future of our municipality's solid waste system through a [survey](#). The survey is focused on obtaining residents' input on the proposed objectives of the strategy review, levels of service delivery, and resident satisfaction with current solid waste services.

Several options will be available for residents to access the survey:

- [Online](#)
- Printed copies (regular and large font) may be mailed to residents by contacting 311
  - Requests for mailed copies must be received by October 25 to allow for return mail

- Printed copies will be available for pick-up at each of the municipal Customer Service Centres at Alderney Gate, Bayers Road and Musquodoboit Harbour locations.
- Solid Waste staff will be present at various events to promote and conduct surveys in person. A list of dates/locations will be updated on [Shape Your City](#).

Anyone who requires assistance completing the survey may request an in-person, online or phone meeting by calling [311](#).

This project is funded in part by the [Sustainable Communities Challenge Fund](#) – a Nova Scotia provincial grant initiative administered by the Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities. In part, this fund supports the implementation of initiatives that avoid and reduce greenhouse gas emissions and contribute to Nova Scotia's targets for emission reduction. Through this grant, the municipality will receive up to \$306,000 towards eligible expenses associated with the strategy review (approximately 60% of the project budget).

Further questions about the Solid Waste Strategy Review may be directed to: [wasteless@halifax.ca](mailto:wasteless@halifax.ca).





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Grand opening of North Central RCMP Detachment

## TAX RELIEF FOR NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS PROGRAM 2022-2023

Halifax Regional Municipality is pleased to announce the Tax Relief for Non-Profit Organizations Program is now accepting applications for 2024-2025.

Organizations applying for acceptance into the program (or the addition of another property) must submit a complete application on or before Thursday, November 30, 2023.



The Tax Relief Program for Non-Profit Organizations application forms is available online on the program's [website](https://non-profittax@halifax.ca) or by e-mailing [non-profittax@halifax.ca](mailto:non-profittax@halifax.ca).

## AFTERWORDS LITERARY FESTIVAL

The fifth annual AfterWords Literary Festival is where writers and readers meet. With a packed schedule of events including conversations and readings, workshops and panel discussions, celebratory events, and even an afternoon fun fair for kids. AfterWords unfolds October 29 to November 5 in venues around Halifax, Dartmouth, and Millbrook.

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

## AFTERWORDS

WHERE WRITERS AND READERS MEET

OCTOBER 29 - NOVEMBER 5, 2023



EMMA DONOGHUE • MONA AWAD  
ZOE WHITTALL • ALICIA ELLIOTT  
SEAN MICHAELS • AND MORE!



AFTERWORDSLITERARYFESTIVAL.COM



# HALIFAX



## RIGHT-OF-WAY CHARGE UPDATE

The Halifax Regional Municipality is advising residents that the Right-of-Way (ROW) charge (formerly referred to as the “Stormwater Right-of-Way 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 [here](#).

For more information on this change, please visit: [halifax.ca/row](http://halifax.ca/row) or contact [311](#).



## PROPERTY TAXES DUE OCTOBER 31

The municipality invoices property tax bills to all property owners twice each year. The tax year covers the fiscal period of April 1 to March 31. The first tax bill was sent out (either by mail or e-post) in March and was due on the last working day of April. The second and final bill will be sent out (either by mail or e-post) in September and is due on the last working day of October (Monday, October 31). The first (or interim) invoice is based on 50 per cent of the current year’s estimated taxes but based on last year’s rates. The final invoice is calculated using the current assessment with the current year’s tax rates, less the amount you already paid from the first invoice. The total amounts billed must be paid by the due date to avoid interest charges. Interest is applied daily to all outstanding taxes at a rate of 10 per cent, per annum. For more information; please call 311, or 902-490-4000 or visit HRM [website](#).



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### HALLOWEEN SAFETY TIPS

#### Trick-or-treaters, parents and guardians:

- Look both ways before crossing the street but try to limit criss-crossing the street (go down one side of the street and up the other). Always watch for vehicles.
- Trick-or-treat with people from your household or your close social group – never go alone.
- Ensure Halloween costumes are bright, reflective, fit well and are warm. Consider using face paint or makeup instead of a mask.
- Carry a flashlight and stay close to well-lit areas.
- Be sure an adult checks all Halloween candy before trick-or-treaters dig in.
- Trick-or-treaters should tell their parents and/or guardians their Halloween route and when they expect to be home.
- Never enter someone's home while trick-or-treating.



#### Motorists:

- Drive slowly and be careful backing up and drive with extra caution in residential areas.

#### Homeowners:

- Keep your doorway well-lit; clear of tripping hazards and open flames.
- Give out only commercially wrapped snacks.
- Keep pets inside on Halloween.

### UPCOMING REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETINGS

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

- October 3
- October 17
- October 31 (if required)

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 a.m. or 1 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 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 October 5.



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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.



HALIFAX



### CONTACT

Should you wish to discuss municipal services or programs, please contact me at [becky.kent@halifax.ca](mailto: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](mailto:smithem@halifax.ca).

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

### RCMP Road Safety Stats

August 2023, District 3  
Eastern Passage

- 251 Calls for Service in August 2023 - Up 9.1% over same period in 2022
- 7 Summary Offence Tickets (vs. 11 in August 2022)  
2 aggressive driving, 5 other MVA (e.g., no insurance, no registration, invalid inspection sticker, etc.)
- 32 Proactive Assignments (vs. 34 in August 2022)  
9 Cell Phone/Impaired/Seatbelt/Speeding Checkpoints/Radar Enforcement
- 22 Traffic Stops (vs. 30 in August 2022)  
0 Impaired Driving Charges (vs. 3 in August 2022)  
1 Impaired Driving Suspension (same as August 2022)
- 6 Motor Vehicle Accidents (vs. 3 in August 2022)  
• none of these accidents resulted in injury
- 1 Vehicle/Pedestrian/Cyclist Accidents (same as August 2022)

**Please Drive Safely!**

HALIFAX